

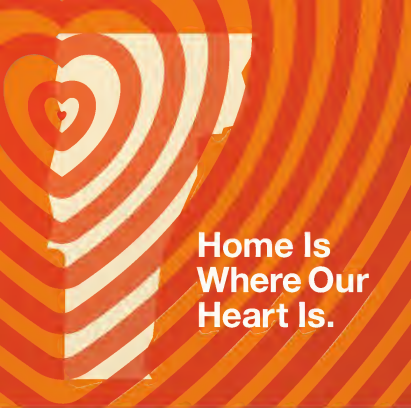
SEVEN DAYSIES

# ALL The BEST

2014  
The LOCALS' VERMONT  
GUIDE to

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FOOD · DRINK  
SHOPPING

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# SEVEN DAYSIES

# ALL THE BEST

The LOCALS' 2014 GUIDE to VERMONT

**W**how Vermont — way to pick your favorite spots to eat, shop and recreate! More than 10,000 voters weighed in on the state's 2014 "best-of" awards with a whopping 690,000-plus individual votes in 107 categories. That's a lot of love, all brought to you by Seven Days, the state's alternative newsweekly.

In this, our 12th year of hosting what we call "the Daysies," we doubled the pleasure. In the first round, Vermonters nominated their favorites in categories from Thai food to tattoo artist, espresso to car dealer. Second, we tallied up the votes, selected up to five finalists in each category and offered those up for voting again. Turns out, we all like multiple choice.

Not only that, but finalists like campaigning! Most of them got into the spirit, encouraging their fans to vote with signs in their store windows, posts on Facebook and (often hilarious) tweets.

A note about the "Outside Chittenden County" section: In Vermont, the largest population is made chittenden, twenty, so it's tough for anyone outside to tag the Burlington area (unless the category involves mountains). But in some instances — say, shoe store or pizza — the passionate swell of votes from outside Chittenden County justified separating the category. So that's what that means.

One more thing: Our "bonus" category this year contained 10 questions. We've sprinkled eight of the winners throughout this magazine. What's the best place in Vermont to get naked? Look for it, people.

Congrats to all the Daysies winners, personnel and newbies, and thanks to Seven Days readers — you're the best.

SEVEN DAYS STAFF

Cover illustration by Jeff Drex



FOOD



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# FOOD

## Of all the Dayside award categories, none has grown more than food.

Few of us with a smartphone can eat a meal anymore without taking a snapshot and we're ordering more adventurously all the time. Diners are unquestionably a foodie culture, and the Green Mountains board some of the nation's best farms and dining hotspots.

Seven Days likes to celebrate the food scene's growing diversity. That's why we added 10 new categories this year and elevated others. Best Asian, a perpetual source of confusion for waters, is now separated by specific country (despite the local prevalence of Vietnamese cuisine in recent years). We were slow to add it, but categories including Chinese, Thai and sushi, it now gets its rightful place, with winner Pho Hang earning its first Dayside.

The Dayside is a great way to reinforce locals' favorites, but this year we also aimed to guide and enlighten visitors to our fair state. To that end, we chose some basic, popular dishes and asked our readers to name a favorite version.

Since breakfast is the most important meal of the day, we added prizes for the best eggs Benedict in and outside Chittenden County and the best breakfast sandwich. For those who prefer a sweet start, we inaugurated a donut doughnut category — and Cold Hollow Cider Mill got the prize.

Other individual food items getting their first shot at Dayside stardom include steak, brew wings, sandwiches, frozen yogurt and bread. Think of this guide as a gastronomy shopping list, filled with must-try tips.



## BEST NEW RESTAURANT (OPENED IN THE LAST YEAR)

### Hen of the Wood

The beloved Waterbury restaurant relocated to a new, larger, legendary venue. But the innovative, innovative cuisine at Hen of the Wood remains. The new one is open for cocktails and craft beers and is in 155 Cherry St., Burlington. 844-6534 henofthewood.com

#### Other finalists:

- Passion Restaurant**, 43 Church St., Burlington, 481-9510 passionvt.com
- Highgate Cafe & Eatery**, 1460 St., Burlington, 542-0810 highgatevt.com
- Sevenside Kitchen**, 3 Center St., Burlington, 481-2822 sevensidekitchen.com
- The Vermont Taproom**, 70 Main St. Ave., Winooski, 879-7656 vermonttaproom.com

## OUTSIDE CHITTENDEN COUNTY

### Pinto

Big salads. Ribs. Menu at this restaurant specializing in light, fresh California cuisine. Just inside the town square in Montpelier, at 100 Main St., 844-6534 pinto.com

#### Other finalists:

- Phoenix Table and Bar**, 1610 Mount Airy Rd., Montpelier, 253-2828 phoenixtableandbar.com
- The Lobby**, 3 Gentry Ln., Montpelier, 844-7443 lobbyrestaurant.com

## BEST RESTAURANT IF YOU'RE PAYING

### Tiny Thai

Two-ounce dim sum for two — and leave with leftovers — for just \$4.00 at this tiny Thai restaurant. Available 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. in a bar setting. 100 Main St., Montpelier, 844-6534 tinythai.com

#### Other finalists:

- American Plateau** — Burlington location, 210 St. Paul St., Burlington, 844-2080 americanplateau.com
- Big Bang**, 145 N. Main St., Burlington, 481-9510
- Monterio Verde**, 100 St. Paul St., Burlington, 481-9510 monterioverde.com
- The Fairview Tap & Grill**, 160 Davis St., Burlington, 481-9510 thefairviewtap.com

## OUTSIDE CHITTENDEN COUNTY

### The Mad Taco

This kuma, chile, cheese, onion specialties in Montpelier, dates made with local, fresh ingredients. Try the daily taco or the weekend taco. 100 Main St., Montpelier, 844-6534 themadtaco.com

#### Other finalists:

- Four Seasons Kitchen**, 100 Route 2, South Hero, 844-6534 fourseasonskitchen.com
- Passion Pizzeria and Lounge**, 1100 Main St., Burlington, 481-9510 passionpizzeria.com
- Sevenside Kitchen**, 3 Center St., Montpelier, 844-6534 sevensidekitchen.com
- The Reserve Restaurant & Tap Room**, 15 Main St., Montpelier, 844-7443 thereserve.com



## BEST NEW RESTAURANT Inside Chittenden County

### HEN OF THE WOOD

It's hard to believe that the Burlington outpost of Hen of the Wood qualifies as a new restaurant. Since opening last October, it has quickly become an essential part of the Queen City scene.

Not surprisingly, both restaurants — owned by chef/line homebased and wine specialist William McNeal — swept several Dayside categories this year (including Worcester for best chef). But while the original Waterbury Hen is all about its pastoral, welcome location (Burlington Hen is at the corner of activity).

Adjacent to Hotel Vermont, the new Hen of the Wood attracts its share of destination diners, as well as locals who hang out at the bar for a spicy Ancho & Apple cocktail, a plate of oysters or piles of thinly sliced southern ham.

Worcester and co.'s most notable new top is the wood fire, cooked lamb ribs, rabbit legs and everything in between — as long as it's local. Practically the only dishes not cooked by fire are the desserts. Try to save room for a maple-inflected opera cake or an intense, crumbly sorbet.

66 Cherry St., Burlington • 844-6534 • henofthewood.com



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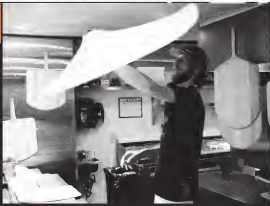


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THANK YOU FOR ALL THE VOTES VERMONT!

# FOOD

## BEST RESTAURANT IF THEY'RE HUNGRY

### Hem of the Wood

Good chefs eat money, and farmers products don't come cheap. But a delicious dinner at Burlington's best-reviewed restaurant is worth the price, especially when someone else is picking up the check. 110 Cherry St., Burlington 540-6334; [hemofthewood.com](http://hemofthewood.com)

#### Other finalists

- A Single Belove** 130 Gore St., Burlington 540-5222; [singlebelove.com](http://singlebelove.com)
- Bueller Dining** 1225 Vermont Rd., South Burlington 489-8921; [buellerdining.com](http://buellerdining.com)
- Louving House & Cafe** 781 Church St., Burlington 540-3358; [louvinghouse.com](http://louvinghouse.com)
- Trout Lake Delta** 137 St. Peter St., Burlington 540-5253; [troutlakedelta.com](http://troutlakedelta.com)

## OUTSIDE CHITTENDEN COUNTY

### Michael's on the Hill

This romantic farm-to-table fine dining restaurant uses Alpine roots. Swiss inspired chef owner Mark van Ginkel runs the kitchen. The weekly changing regularly chef-tendered specials and chocolate fondue are generous. 4142 Route 108, Montpelier Center 244-1416; [michaelsonthehill.com](http://michaelsonthehill.com)

#### Other finalists

- Five Points Bistro** 371 Route 2, South Hero 337-8774; [fivepointsbistro.com](http://fivepointsbistro.com)
- Kismet** 32 State St., Montpelier 243-8848; [kismetmontpelier.com](http://kismetmontpelier.com)

## BEST BREAKFAST / BRUNCH

### Penny Chase Cafe

The long lines are a testament to the eternal popularity of this breakfast and lunch spot. Try the Lyons bannocks... two-potat omelette, orange, cranberry muffins and ambrosia pudding. 249 Cherry St., Burlington 540-8334; [pennychase.com](http://pennychase.com)

#### Other finalists

- Louving House & Cafe** 781 Church St., Burlington 540-3358; [louvinghouse.com](http://louvinghouse.com)
- Magnolia Table** 1 Lowell Ln., Sudbury 540-3348; [magnoliatable.com](http://magnoliatable.com)
- Minted** 198 Main St., Burlington 540-3814; [mintedvt.com](http://mintedvt.com)
- Southern Table** 20 Main St., Woodstock 603-9257; [southernvt.com](http://southernvt.com)

## OUTSIDE CHITTENDEN COUNTY

### Kismet

Just across with a conscience, Kismet, where carefully sourced local and sustainable food is presented daily - even at brunch. Try the egg Benedict. You won't regret it. 112 State St., Montpelier 223-8848; [kismetmontpelier.com](http://kismetmontpelier.com)

#### Other finalists

- McLarny's Restaurant** 454 Mountain Rd. 243-8826; [mclarnysrestaurant.com](http://mclarnysrestaurant.com)
- The Raven** 314 Mountain Rd., South 253-8913



Chef Adam Martin with owners Jamie Penick and Mark Kaplan at Food in Stone

## BEST LUNCH

### Misery Loves Company

The open kitchen is also out, showcasing amazing food from chicken-chorizo pork buns to house craft beer and fish. In 2013, the Ave earned three red awards: a James Beard Foundation Award nomination, 100 Main St. Woodstock 489-2818; [miserylovescompany.com](http://miserylovescompany.com)

#### Other finalists

- Louving House & Cafe** 781 Church St., Burlington 540-3358; [louvinghouse.com](http://louvinghouse.com)
- Penny Chase Cafe** 249 Cherry St., Burlington 540-8334; [pennychase.com](http://pennychase.com)
- Red Cow** 190 Church St., Burlington 540-3363
- Sandwich & Bites Street Sausage** 211 College St., Burlington 540-3358; [sandwichandbites.com](http://sandwichandbites.com)

## OUTSIDE CHITTENDEN COUNTY

### Prohibition Pig

This breakfast restaurant only serves lunch Friday through Sunday, but it's making a big impact in the city. A local and sidewalk coffee was never so trendy. 515 S. Main St., Woodbury 244-4220; [prohibitionpig.com](http://prohibitionpig.com)

#### Other finalists

- 2 Squares Cafe** 120 Main St., Vergennes 877-2772; [thesquarescafe.com](http://thesquarescafe.com)
- The Hot Time** 2 Village Sq., Shelburne 489-3832; 72 Main St., Montpelier 223-6538; [thehottime.com](http://thehottime.com)
- Philly's Pizzeria & Lounge** 1788 Mountain Rd., Judds 253-4411; [phillys.com](http://phillys.com)
- Melrose Kitchen** 34 State St., Montpelier 223-8771

## BEST PLACE TO GET LATE-NIGHT FOOD

### Kountry Kart Deli

In the midst for a lively atmosphere in the kitchen, at home! This town's quietest City deli serves its full menu from 1 a.m. to 3 a.m. all year round. 133 Main St., Burlington 540-3328; [kountrykartdeli.com](http://kountrykartdeli.com)

#### Other finalists

- All About's Kitchen Deli** 160 Main St., Burlington 540-3320
- St. George's Tavern & Cantina** 170 State St., Burlington 489-1888; [stgeorges.com](http://stgeorges.com)
- McMills** 208 Main St., Burlington 540-3320
- McMills** 169 Main St., Burlington 540-4171; [mcmills.com](http://mcmills.com)

## BEST OUTDOOR DINING

### The Skinny Pancake

America's mix of local meats and veggies are wrapped in eggs and cornmeal that's cooked in Burlington and Montpelier. Locavore salute, local! Barbecue and veggie dishes take even better in the juke. 161 Lake St., Burlington 540-3371; [skinnypancake.com](http://skinnypancake.com)

#### Other finalists

- Amelior Cafe** 1 King St., Burlington 540-3276; [ameliorcafe.com](http://ameliorcafe.com)
- Louving House & Cafe** 781 Church St., Burlington 540-3358; [louvinghouse.com](http://louvinghouse.com)
- Spokane at the Inn** 600 College St., Burlington 540-3244; [spokaneattheinn.com](http://spokaneattheinn.com)
- Sweetwaters** 120 Church St., Burlington 540-3358; [sweetwaters.com](http://sweetwaters.com)

## BEST NEW RESTAURANT outside chittenden county

### PLATE

The name Plate is short and sweet, but it doesn't tell the whole story of this petite spot that opened in Stowe last March. A latter moniker might be Cane.

At Plate, owners James Penick and Mark Kaplan and chef Adam Martin pay attention to every aspect of the dining experience. Sit atop a dark wood booth under a jangle of light bulbs left artfully naked, diners get their first look of the kitchen's cooking work with a complimentary bread basket. The home-baked bread is served with cinnamon butter.

Match savory fare to learn toward the light, California style meat that its owners eat at home, but that doesn't stop them from serving up more indulgent cuisine, including a pork belly and eggs appetizer. Diners who hold back and order a salad have all the more reason for Penick's indulgent banana pudding, a breakfast star.

81 Main St., Stowe • 253-2380 • [platestowe.com](http://platestowe.com)





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# FOOD



## BEST CHEF

### Eric Warnstedt, Hen of the Wood

For an entrepreneur for the James Beard Foundation, Warnstedt chose to start the Northeast's first farm-to-table restaurant in the Northeast. He's a chef at Hen of the Wood, 330 Church St., Burlington (802) 524-4400. [henofthewood.com](http://henofthewood.com)

#### Other finalists

- Alexis Jeon and Kate Wade of Moose Livered.** 45 Myrtle, Winoona, 402-2880 [mooselivered.com](http://mooselivered.com)
- Samuel Calverley and Leung's Bistro & Cafe.** 15 Church St., Burlington, 802-350-3500 [leungs.com](http://leungs.com)
- Phan Knight of Hue Pudding Bar.** 318 Reister, South Hero, 802-484-8540 [huelive.com](http://huelive.com)
- Phil Clayton of Soul Tastes.** 1030 Williston Rd., South Burlington, 802-330-1300

## BEST RESTAURANT SERVICE

### Hen of the Wood

The restaurant's focus on carefully selected, locally sourced ingredients is what's making it stand out in the region. The owners have been the winners of the James Beard Award for Best Chef in the Northeast, 330 Church St., Burlington (802) 524-4400. [henofthewood.com](http://henofthewood.com)

#### Other finalists

- Blue Plate Diner.** 318 Reister, South Hero, 802-484-8540 [huelive.com](http://huelive.com)
- Leung's Bistro & Cafe.** 15 Church St., Burlington, 802-350-3500 [leungs.com](http://leungs.com)
- The Frenchman Tap & Grill.** 160 State St., Burlington, 802-524-4400 [thefrenchman.com](http://thefrenchman.com)
- Trattoria Della.** 100 N. Main St., Burlington, 802-330-1300 [trattoriadella.com](http://trattoriadella.com)

## BEST PLACE TO GRAB A QUICK MEAL

### City Market

A wide range of options makes this market the perfect place for a quick meal. It's a market with a focus on locally sourced ingredients, and it's a place where you can find everything you need for a quick meal. 100 N. Main St., Burlington, 802-330-1300 [citymarket.com](http://citymarket.com)

#### Other finalists

- Polino.** 100 Church St., Burlington, 802-330-1300 [polino.com](http://polino.com)
- Home of T.** 100 Church St., Burlington, 802-330-1300 [homeoft.com](http://homeoft.com)
- Home of T.** 100 Church St., Burlington, 802-330-1300 [homeoft.com](http://homeoft.com)
- Home of T.** 100 Church St., Burlington, 802-330-1300 [homeoft.com](http://homeoft.com)
- Home of T.** 100 Church St., Burlington, 802-330-1300 [homeoft.com](http://homeoft.com)

## BEST PLACE TO EAT ALONE

### City Market

Although the place sells sugary "fish heads" and other items, it's a place where you can find everything you need for a quick meal. 100 N. Main St., Burlington, 802-330-1300 [citymarket.com](http://citymarket.com)

#### Other finalists

- Old Country Tavern.** 100 Church St., Burlington, 802-330-1300 [oldcountrytavern.com](http://oldcountrytavern.com)
- Leung's Bistro & Cafe.** 15 Church St., Burlington, 802-350-3500 [leungs.com](http://leungs.com)
- Home of T.** 100 Church St., Burlington, 802-330-1300 [homeoft.com](http://homeoft.com)
- Home of T.** 100 Church St., Burlington, 802-330-1300 [homeoft.com](http://homeoft.com)
- Home of T.** 100 Church St., Burlington, 802-330-1300 [homeoft.com](http://homeoft.com)

## BEST THAI

### Tiny Thai

The owners are including people from the region in the restaurant. It's a place where you can find everything you need for a quick meal. 100 N. Main St., Burlington, 802-330-1300 [tinythai.com](http://tinythai.com)

#### Other finalists

- Pho Hong.** 100 Church St., Burlington, 802-330-1300 [phohong.com](http://phohong.com)
- Royal Thai.** 100 Church St., Burlington, 802-330-1300 [royalthai.com](http://royalthai.com)
- Pho Hong.** 100 Church St., Burlington, 802-330-1300 [phohong.com](http://phohong.com)
- Pho Hong.** 100 Church St., Burlington, 802-330-1300 [phohong.com](http://phohong.com)
- Pho Hong.** 100 Church St., Burlington, 802-330-1300 [phohong.com](http://phohong.com)

## BEST CHINESE

### A Single Pebble

The restaurant is a place where you can find everything you need for a quick meal. 100 N. Main St., Burlington, 802-330-1300 [singlepebble.com](http://singlepebble.com)

#### Other finalists

- Asian House.** 100 Church St., Burlington, 802-330-1300 [asianhouse.com](http://asianhouse.com)
- Asian House.** 100 Church St., Burlington, 802-330-1300 [asianhouse.com](http://asianhouse.com)
- Asian House.** 100 Church St., Burlington, 802-330-1300 [asianhouse.com](http://asianhouse.com)
- Asian House.** 100 Church St., Burlington, 802-330-1300 [asianhouse.com](http://asianhouse.com)
- Asian House.** 100 Church St., Burlington, 802-330-1300 [asianhouse.com](http://asianhouse.com)

## BEST MEXICAN

### El Cortijo Taqueria y Cantina

The restaurant is a place where you can find everything you need for a quick meal. 100 N. Main St., Burlington, 802-330-1300 [elcortijo.com](http://elcortijo.com)



## BEST CIDER DOUGHNUTS COLD HOLLOW CIDER MILL

Between the Ben & Jerry's factory and slow destination restaurants, Waterbury is a hub of food tourism. But tourists aren't the only ones who make sure to stop at Cold Hollow Cider Mill.

Sure, Vermonters can grab a bag of the mill's well-balanced cider at nearly any local supermarket. But they have to go to the source (or resort to mail order) for another apple-specific treat: cider doughnuts.

The light, spiced treats may taste handcrafted, but they're actually made by a robot. Luckily, the machine works fast. The store sells about 800 of the pastries daily during foliage season. And the product doesn't suffer from being produced in bulk. The now-defunct Gourmet magazine picked Cold Hollow doughnuts among the nation's four best. Clearly Vermonters agree.

1600 Waterbury-Shore Rd., Waterbury Center • 244-8271 • [coldhollow.com](http://coldhollow.com)

#### Other finalists

- Old Country Tavern.** 100 Church St., Burlington, 802-330-1300 [oldcountrytavern.com](http://oldcountrytavern.com)
- Home of T.** 100 Church St., Burlington, 802-330-1300 [homeoft.com](http://homeoft.com)
- Home of T.** 100 Church St., Burlington, 802-330-1300 [homeoft.com](http://homeoft.com)
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- Home of T.** 100 Church St., Burlington, 802-330-1300 [homeoft.com](http://homeoft.com)

## BEST VIETNAMESE

### Pho Hong

The place that's been at the top of the list for years. It's a place where you can find everything you need for a quick meal. 100 N. Main St., Burlington, 802-330-1300 [phohong.com](http://phohong.com)

#### Other finalists

- Old Country Tavern.** 100 Church St., Burlington, 802-330-1300 [oldcountrytavern.com](http://oldcountrytavern.com)
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## BEST ITALIAN

### Trattoria Della

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## BEST BAGEL

inside Chittenden County

# MYER'S BAGEL BAKERY

In many bag cities, skinny Montreal-style bagels are a sought-after delicacy. In Vermont, we just call them Myer's Bagels.

If the logo of an anthropomorphic bagel looks familiar, that's because Myer's shares it with Montreal's famed St. Viateur Bagel, where baker Uziel Siqueres once plied his trade. He's been in Burlington for nearly 30 years now, baking his dough in honey and baking it in a wood-fired oven.

Last year, new owners Colin Bloch and Adam Jones expanded the menu, adding sweets and other products to the popular baked goods line. Siqueres himself performed a plaiting finesse bagel option (but whether customers go traditional or whole-free, they always come back for Montreal spice, flavored loaves).

377 Pine St., Burlington • 862-6010

## FOOD

### BEST VEGETARIAN FARE

#### A Single Pebble

This outdoor Chinese and Korean eatery up a menu of plant-based dishes every day except Sunday, when they serve dim sum during morning (103 Bank St., Burlington, 855-5000, [singlepebble.com](http://singlepebble.com)).

#### Other finalists

- Kismet**, 30 Union St., Montpelier, 235-8646, [www.kismetvts.com](http://www.kismetvts.com)
- Ping Pong Café & Eatery**, 1100 St., Burlington, 545-6100, [a.pingpong.com](http://a.pingpong.com)
- Resurrection Kitchen & Center St.**, Burlington, 445-3832, [resurrectionkitchen.com](http://resurrectionkitchen.com)
- Tokyo & BFF's**, 1000 Maple St., Colchester, 242-1000, [tokyoandbff.com](http://tokyoandbff.com)

### BEST COMFORT FOOD

#### Farmhouse Tap & Grill

This award-winning pub/grill offers classic burgers, farm-to-table dishes, fresh local, comfortable food and soups, often made from local sources (160 Bank St., Burlington, 330-0889, [farmhousetap.com](http://farmhousetap.com)).

#### Other finalists

- Blackbird Barbecue**, 310 Riverfront Ave., Burlington, 444-3030, [blackbirdbbq.com](http://blackbirdbbq.com)
- Winery Lanes**, 44 W. Main St., Montpelier, 457-3585, [winerylanes.com](http://winerylanes.com)
- Our House Bistro**, 30 Main St., Williston, 832-1834, [ourhousebistro.com](http://ourhousebistro.com)
- Perry House Café**, 168 Cherry St., Burlington, 654-8134, [perryhousecafe.com](http://perryhousecafe.com)
- Prohibition Pig**, 215 W. Main St., Montpelier, 264-4232, [prohibitionpig.com](http://prohibitionpig.com)

### BEST EGGS BENEDICT

#### Sneakers Bistro

Locals have recognized the great cafe for more than 30 years. The atmosphere is rich with every popular beverage, legendary and the daily specials are always wonderful (100 Main St., Montpelier, 232-6001, [sneakersbistro.com](http://sneakersbistro.com)).

#### Other finalists

- Leavitt's Bakes & Café**, 103 Church St., Burlington, 252-3209, [leavittsbakes.com](http://leavittsbakes.com)
- Hopkins Bakes**, 11 Lewis Ave., Rutland, 707, Burlington, 418-1946, [hopkinsbakes.com](http://hopkinsbakes.com)
- Pie & Pops**, 1000 W. Main St., Burlington, 654-6000, [pieandpops.com](http://pieandpops.com)

### OUTSIDE CHITTENDEN COUNTY

#### Blue Paddle Bistro

This restaurant has built a devoted following with a menu that includes fresh meats, local, fish, and eggs which merge delicious flavor and special ingredients like locally sourced eggs benedict (218 Route 2, South Hero, 332-4314, [bluepaddlebistro.com](http://bluepaddlebistro.com)).

#### Other finalists

- Kismet**, 30 Union St., Montpelier, 235-8646, [www.kismetvts.com](http://www.kismetvts.com)
- The Grubbin' Inn**, 1021 Main St., Stowe, 752-7232, [thegrubbininn.com](http://thegrubbininn.com)

### BEST BREAKFAST SANDWICH

#### Country Kart Deli

Whether you choose a vibrant, morning meal or one of the 17 varieties of breakfast chowder, drive-in breakfast is a tradition in Burlington (1000 Prospect St., Burlington, 854-4428, [countrykartdeli.com](http://countrykartdeli.com)).

#### Other finalists

- City Market**, 123 S. Williston Rd., Burlington, 862-3559, [citymarketvt.com](http://citymarketvt.com)
- Golden Fine Meats**, 11 St., West St., Burlington, 862-3613, [goldenfinefoods.com](http://goldenfinefoods.com)
- Heavy Street Café**, 7 Heavy St., Burlington, 264-1734, [heavystreet.com](http://heavystreet.com)
- The Bagel Place**, 264 Williston Rd., South Burlington, 457-0256, [thebagelplace.com](http://thebagelplace.com)
- The Chubby Healthy**, 68 St. St., Burlington, 242-0232, [thechubbyhealthy.com](http://thechubbyhealthy.com)

### BEST BAGEL

A wood-fired oven bakes delicious artisanal bagels at this small South End eatery. Try them stacked with house-made cranberry sauce (377 Pine St., Burlington, 862-6010, [myersbagels.com](http://myersbagels.com)).

#### Other finalists

- Brongers Bagels**, 69 Church St., Burlington, 862-1955, 791-5 Shrewsbury Rd., Shrewsbury, 863-2823, [brongers.com](http://brongers.com)
- Burlington Bagel Bakery**, 102 Shrewsbury Rd., South Burlington, 854-0235, [burlingtonbagelbakery.com](http://burlingtonbagelbakery.com)
- Farmhouse Bagels**, 340 Pine St., Burlington, 242-0424, [farmhousebagels.com](http://farmhousebagels.com)
- The Bagel Market**, 62 Jude Wilson Rd., Essex, Vermont, 832-5646, [thebagelmarket.com](http://thebagelmarket.com)
- The Bagel Place**, 264 Williston Rd., South Burlington, 457-0256, [thebagelplace.com](http://thebagelplace.com)

### OUTSIDE CHITTENDEN COUNTY

#### The Bagel

Twenty different bagels are made from scratch with daily at this cafe. Get yours spread with bacon, salmon, or even chocolate (40 Maple Ave., South Hero, 332-3943, [thebagel.com](http://thebagel.com)).

#### Other finalists

- Bagels & Buns**, 610 Main St., Montpelier, 232-6272, [bagelsandbuns.com](http://bagelsandbuns.com)
- AC's Bagel Café**, 11 W. Main St., Williston, 834-1143, [acsbagelsandbuns.com](http://acsbagelsandbuns.com)
- Midway Bagel & Sandwiches**, 7 W. Main St., Montpelier, 232-6272, [midwaybagels.com](http://midwaybagels.com)

### BEST CIDER COUGH-NUTS

#### Cold Hollow Cider Mill

This cider mill is made up of local apples and organic cider. Enjoy too a variety of other bagel and other specialty foods. The bakery rotates apple pies, dumplings and savory morning breads (186-200 W. Main St., Newbury, 252-4444, [coldhollowcidermill.com](http://coldhollowcidermill.com)).

#### Other finalists

- Champion Orchard**, 2550 Route 14 W., Montpelier, 857-2577, [championorchard.com](http://championorchard.com)
- Chittenden Cider Mill**, 1010 Route 1, South Burlington, 862-4822, [chittendencidermill.com](http://chittendencidermill.com)
- Madison Orchard**, 816 South St., South Hero, 332-4444, [madisonorchard.com](http://madisonorchard.com)
- Sam Hazen Farm Market**, 211 Lyndon Rd., Colchester, 855-9445, [samhazenfarm.com](http://samhazenfarm.com)
- De Niro's Orchard**, 216 Orchard St., Shrewsbury, 863-2232, [denirosorchard.com](http://denirosorchard.com)



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sensorytestcenter@keurig.com  
or 822.962.2709.





## BEST WINGS

# WINGS OVER BURLINGTON

When a food business mimics itself after a particular item on the menu, said item had better be exceptional. In the case of Wings over Burlington, the 35 location chain offers wings good enough to knock out the competition—even in local living Vermont.

The South Burlington location's attractive hours—open until 1 a.m. during the week and 3 a.m. on weekends—no doubt helped put its wings over the top. The late-night delivery is perfect for a boozy night. And college kids (or grown folk) partying 'til dawn with a crowd can pick up as many as 120 bone-in wings or more than six pounds of boneless ones.

With 23 different sauces available, it might not be a bad idea to try the big box. Mustard-inflected golden barbecue sauce is a flat-to-a-salty-dry rub of garlic-Parmesan, which in turn makes a good contrast to spicy teriyaki. Love it, really hot? Try the fiery Afterburner Buffalo sauce.

**160 Dorset St., South Burlington • 802-244-1100 • wingsoverburlington.com**

PHOTO: JEFFREY M. HARRIS

## FOOD

### BEST PIZZA (RESTAURANT)

#### American Flatbread—Burlington Hearth

Flatbread topped with a gourmet meat selection and hand-blended sauces makes your night on the water well. Head over from here to watch Doris Seelye dance from the ice house brewery. 100 St. Paul St., Burlington. 802-255-9999. [americanflatbread.com](http://americanflatbread.com)

##### Other finalists:

- Polina's Pizzeria:** 100 St. Paul St., Burlington. 802-255-9999. [polinas.com](http://polinas.com)
- Joey's Italian:** 115 Main St., Burlington. 802-255-9999. 80 St. Paul St., Burlington. 802-255-9999. [joey.com](http://joey.com)
- Polina's Pizzeria:** 100 St. Paul St., Burlington. 802-255-9999. [polinas.com](http://polinas.com)

### OUTSIDE CHITTENDEN COUNTY

#### Positive Pie

All sorts of toppings and toppings all served on hand-rolled crusts, along with creative entrees and sandwiches and house-made beers. 371 S. Main St., Randolph. 802-733-1111. 22 State St., Montpelier. 802-733-1111. 100 Main St., Waterbury. 802-255-9999. [positivepie.com](http://positivepie.com)

##### Other finalists:

- The Blue Stone:** 100 State St., Waterbury. 802-733-1111. [bluestone.com](http://bluestone.com)
- Polina's Pizzeria & Lounge:** 100 Main St., Waterbury. 802-255-9999. [polinas.com](http://polinas.com)

### BEST PIZZA (DELIVERY)

#### Leonardo's Pizzeria

This pizza delivery service isn't just about toppings and pizza—it's about the whole experience. Leonardo's Pizzeria is a family-owned business and has been serving pizza in the Burlington area for over 30 years. 100 St. Paul St., Burlington. 802-255-9999. [leonardospizzeria.com](http://leonardospizzeria.com)

##### Other finalists:

- Joey's Italian:** 115 Main St., Burlington. 802-255-9999. 80 St. Paul St., Burlington. 802-255-9999. [joey.com](http://joey.com)
- Polina's Pizzeria (Formerly Blue Pie Pizzeria):** 100 St. Paul St., Burlington. 802-255-9999. [polinas.com](http://polinas.com)
- Polina's Pizzeria (Formerly Blue Pie Pizzeria):** 100 St. Paul St., Burlington. 802-255-9999. [polinas.com](http://polinas.com)
- Polina's Pizzeria (Formerly Blue Pie Pizzeria):** 100 St. Paul St., Burlington. 802-255-9999. [polinas.com](http://polinas.com)

### OUTSIDE CHITTENDEN COUNTY

#### Positive Pie

This pizza delivery service isn't just about toppings and pizza—it's about the whole experience. Positive Pie is a family-owned business and has been serving pizza in the Burlington area for over 30 years. 100 St. Paul St., Burlington. 802-255-9999. [positivepie.com](http://positivepie.com)

##### Other finalists:

- Joey's Italian:** 115 Main St., Burlington. 802-255-9999. 80 St. Paul St., Burlington. 802-255-9999. [joey.com](http://joey.com)
- Polina's Pizzeria (Formerly Blue Pie Pizzeria):** 100 St. Paul St., Burlington. 802-255-9999. [polinas.com](http://polinas.com)
- Polina's Pizzeria (Formerly Blue Pie Pizzeria):** 100 St. Paul St., Burlington. 802-255-9999. [polinas.com](http://polinas.com)

### BEST BURGER

#### The Farmhouse Tap & Grill

This award-winning gastropub offers a different twist on burgers, with patties made from regional beef and house-dry aged beef, pork, seasoned buns, and juicy local pork. 100 St. Paul St., Burlington. 802-255-9999. [thefarmhouse.com](http://thefarmhouse.com)

##### Other finalists:

- Blackbird Tavern:** 100 St. Paul St., Burlington. 802-255-9999. [blackbirdtavern.com](http://blackbirdtavern.com)
- Five Guys Burgers & Fries:** 100 St. Paul St., Burlington. 802-255-9999. [fiveguys.com](http://fiveguys.com)
- Big Fish:** 100 St. Paul St., Burlington. 802-255-9999. [bigfish.com](http://bigfish.com)
- The Shaggy Dog:** 100 St. Paul St., Burlington. 802-255-9999. [theshaggydog.com](http://theshaggydog.com)

### OUTSIDE CHITTENDEN COUNTY

#### Prohibition Pig

It's not just the cheap beer bringing in the lines here. The Pig has some regular options, including the house-made sausage and house-made beer. 100 St. Paul St., Waterbury. 802-255-9999. [prohibitionpig.com](http://prohibitionpig.com)

##### Other finalists:

- The Burger Bar:** 100 St. Paul St., Burlington. 802-255-9999. [theburgerbar.com](http://theburgerbar.com)
- The Pig:** 100 St. Paul St., Burlington. 802-255-9999. [thepig.com](http://thepig.com)
- Wendy's:** 100 St. Paul St., Burlington. 802-255-9999. [wendys.com](http://wendys.com)

### BEST STEAK

#### Guild Tavern

Guild Tavern's food and drink menu is a mix of classic and modern. The Tavern's food and drink menu is a mix of classic and modern. 100 St. Paul St., Burlington. 802-255-9999. [guildtavern.com](http://guildtavern.com)

##### Other finalists:

- Old Stone Tavern:** 100 St. Paul St., Burlington. 802-255-9999. [oldstone.com](http://oldstone.com)
- Five Guys Burgers & Fries:** 100 St. Paul St., Burlington. 802-255-9999. [fiveguys.com](http://fiveguys.com)
- Big Fish:** 100 St. Paul St., Burlington. 802-255-9999. [bigfish.com](http://bigfish.com)
- The Shaggy Dog:** 100 St. Paul St., Burlington. 802-255-9999. [theshaggydog.com](http://theshaggydog.com)

### OUTSIDE CHITTENDEN COUNTY

#### Fire and Ice Restaurant

This popular restaurant has a menu of classic and modern. The restaurant's food and drink menu is a mix of classic and modern. 100 St. Paul St., Burlington. 802-255-9999. [fireandice.com](http://fireandice.com)

##### Other finalists:

- Old Stone Tavern:** 100 St. Paul St., Burlington. 802-255-9999. [oldstone.com](http://oldstone.com)
- Five Guys Burgers & Fries:** 100 St. Paul St., Burlington. 802-255-9999. [fiveguys.com](http://fiveguys.com)
- Big Fish:** 100 St. Paul St., Burlington. 802-255-9999. [bigfish.com](http://bigfish.com)
- The Shaggy Dog:** 100 St. Paul St., Burlington. 802-255-9999. [theshaggydog.com](http://theshaggydog.com)



# FOOD

## BEST FRENCH FRIES

### AP's French Frys

Named after "America's Frys" by the Zankel Food Foundation, this is the best, cut-thin fries in America in the U.S. They are sold in bags, chicken burgers and in a sauce of choice. (701 Millwood St., Burlington 855-5203 [apfrenchfry.com](http://apfrenchfry.com))

#### Other finalists:

- Beck's Deli**, Dorsey Park, Burlington  
[Beck'sDeli.com](http://Beck'sDeli.com), 1416 Church St.  
 Burlington 855-3760 [becksdeli.com](http://becksdeli.com)
- Henry Lewis Co.**, 48 Main St., Westford  
 978-3385 [henrylewis.com](http://henrylewis.com)
- Beck's Deli**, 101 Main St., Burlington 855-4770  
[becksdeli.com](http://becksdeli.com)
- The Farmhouse Tap & Beer**, 150 Bank St.  
 Burlington 855-5585 [farmhouseg.com](http://farmhouseg.com)

## OUTSIDE CHITTENDEN COUNTY

### Prohibition Pig

Two weeks, duck fat, lettuce, hot sauce, fuzzy hot line & ketchup for this hot burg spot, chef Mark Wilmot brought his seriously indulgent fries, like these fries, just daily. (210 E. Main St., Northbury 248-4322 [prohibitionpig.com](http://prohibitionpig.com))

#### Other finalists:

- Blue Pacific Diner**, 288 Route 4, South Hero  
 978-474 [bluepacificdiner.com](http://bluepacificdiner.com)
- Worcester's Taproom**, 108 Main St.  
 Montpelier 225-8271 [worcestersaproom.com](http://worcestersaproom.com)

## BEST WINGS

### Wings Over Burlington

Three ingredients of wings are the real deal and sports are the fun. The wings — made with fresh chicken — come in 10 flavors, from "Mystery" to "Cajun" to "New York" to "Hot & Spicy". There are sides, wings, 180 and sandwiches too. (310 Court St., South Burlington 855-3444 [wingsoverburlington.com](http://wingsoverburlington.com))

#### Other finalists:

- Buffalo Wild Wings**, 300 Shelburne Rd.  
 Burlington 855-5081 [buffalowildwings.com](http://buffalowildwings.com)
- Beck's Deli**, 101 Main St., Burlington 855-4770  
[becksdeli.com](http://becksdeli.com)
- Beck's Deli**, 101 Main St., Burlington 855-4770  
[becksdeli.com](http://becksdeli.com)
- The Brewpub & Tap Room**, 15 Main St., Westbury 248-7127  
[brewpubtaproom.com](http://brewpubtaproom.com)

## BEST SANDWICHES

### Martone's Market & Café

This eat-meats-is-popular for its "Vermont sandwich" — made with ham, cheddar and honey mustard on homemade bread. Coffee and house-baked goods are an offer for breakfast. (30 Main St., South Burlington 855-5203 [martonesmarket.com](http://martonesmarket.com))

#### Other finalists:

- Four Seasons of the Earth**, 310 Pine St.  
 Burlington 855-3860 [fourseasons.com](http://fourseasons.com)
- Henry Lewis Co.**, 48 Main St., Westford  
 978-3385 [henrylewis.com](http://henrylewis.com)
- Beck's Deli**, 101 Main St., Burlington 855-4770  
[becksdeli.com](http://becksdeli.com)
- Beck's Deli**, 101 Main St., Burlington 855-4770  
[becksdeli.com](http://becksdeli.com)
- Beck's Deli**, 101 Main St., Burlington 855-4770  
[becksdeli.com](http://becksdeli.com)



## BEST SANDWICHES

### MARTONE'S MARKET & CAFÉ

Since 1982, Essex Junction residents have spoken of the sandwiches at Martone's Market & Café in recent times, eating and sipping over the fresh, locally baked bread and the varied sides and spreads. But most of their adoration is directed at the sheer size of the things.

Meat is piled high at Martone's, almost to the stature of the famous sandwiches at Katz's delicatessen in New York. Conservative eaters may find themselves bringing home half, or even three quarters of the Beef's Head slices and getting another meal out of it. Others dig right in.

Either way, it's worth ordering a whole sandwich, which costs just \$1.30 more than a half portion and can feed a family.

All Martone's (the truth is between two slices of bread, whether you choose warm, homemade meatloaf, the Vermont with maple ham and turkey honey mustard and cheddar, or plain old lo mein).

30 Main St., Essex Junction 878-0160 [martonesmarket.com](http://martonesmarket.com)

## BEST SUSSH

### Aniana House

At this fusion-style Japanese eatery, the vegetarian menu and sushi bar are especially popular as are the Kani and the Shrimp. (701 Pearl St., Burlington 855-5203 [aniana.com](http://aniana.com))

#### Other finalists:

- Anna's House**, 101 Church St.  
 Burlington 855-5203 [annashouse.com](http://annashouse.com)
- Kani Japanese Restaurant**, 110  
 Shelburne Rd., South Burlington 855-5203  
[kanijapanese.com](http://kanijapanese.com)
- Sushi Japanese Restaurant**, 112 Lake St.  
 Burlington 855-5203 [sushijapanese.com](http://sushijapanese.com)
- Sushi Yoda**, 101 Mountain Rd., South  
 Burlington 855-5203 [sushiyoda.com](http://sushiyoda.com)

## BEST CREAM

### Burlington Bay Market & Café

This eat-meats-is-popular for its "Vermont sandwich" — made with ham, cheddar and honey mustard on homemade bread. Coffee and house-baked goods are an offer for breakfast. (30 Main St., South Burlington 855-5203 [burlingtonbaymarket.com](http://burlingtonbaymarket.com))

#### Other finalists:

- AP's French Frys**, 101 Millwood St., South  
 Burlington 855-5203 [apfrenchfry.com](http://apfrenchfry.com)
- Beck's Deli**, 101 Main St., Burlington 855-4770  
[becksdeli.com](http://becksdeli.com)
- Beck's Deli**, 101 Main St., Burlington 855-4770  
[becksdeli.com](http://becksdeli.com)
- Beck's Deli**, 101 Main St., Burlington 855-4770  
[becksdeli.com](http://becksdeli.com)

## OUTSIDE CHITTENDEN COUNTY

### Vermont Cookie Love Shack

Using the finest Vermont ingredients, such as the delectable maple, chocolate and cream. (210 E. Main St., Northbury 248-4322 [vermontcookie.com](http://vermontcookie.com))

#### Other finalists:

- Brugg Farm Supermarket & Deli Shop**,  
 1000 Route 100, North Ferrisburgh 225-2207  
[bruggfarm.com](http://bruggfarm.com)
- Brugg Farm Supermarket**, 1000 Route  
 100, North Ferrisburgh 225-2207 [bruggfarm.com](http://bruggfarm.com)
- The Dairy House**, 100 State St., Montpelier  
 225-8271 [dairyhouse.com](http://dairyhouse.com)

## BEST FROZEN YOGURT

### So Yo Frozen Yogurt

The small, butch-style frozen yogurt is made from farm-fresh local ingredients. There are more than 20 toppings, including local berries in season and more than 35 flavors, which change weekly. (100 Pine St., Burlington 855-5203 [soyofrozen.com](http://soyofrozen.com))

#### Other finalists:

- Hugobon's**, 100 Pine St., Burlington 855-5203  
[hugobons.com](http://hugobons.com)
- Brugg Farm**, 100 Pine St., Burlington 855-5203  
[bruggfarm.com](http://bruggfarm.com)
- Brugg Farm**, 100 Pine St., Burlington 855-5203  
[bruggfarm.com](http://bruggfarm.com)

## BEST HOUSEMADE ICE CREAM

### Lake Champlain Chocolates

With two Burlington locations, this chocolate shop has something for everyone. Get a mug of house-made chocolate, take a bite of your favorite ice cream, or get a bite of your favorite ice cream. (100 Pine St., Burlington 855-5203 [lakechamplainchocolates.com](http://lakechamplainchocolates.com))

#### Other finalists:

- Maple House**, 100 Pine St., Burlington 855-5203  
[maplehouse.com](http://maplehouse.com)
- Maple House**, 100 Pine St., Burlington 855-5203  
[maplehouse.com](http://maplehouse.com)
- Maple House**, 100 Pine St., Burlington 855-5203  
[maplehouse.com](http://maplehouse.com)



## OUTSIDE CHITTENDEN COUNTY

### Island Homemade Ice Cream

Based in Island Lake, this delicious ice creamery serves up its French vanilla and chocolate Sugartime, alongside its cakes, including maple raspberry cream and maple sorbet. (305 US Route 2, Grant Box, 302-6384 islandhomemadeicecream.com)

#### Other locations:

- Old Station:** 327 Main St., Montpelier 302-244-0000 Facebook
- 1-C, Swanton:** 10 Main St., Swanton 202-855-0000.com
- Lake Ice Cream:** 11 Main St., Shelburne 777-2933 lakeice.com

## BEST CHEESE

### Cabot Creamery

The people's cheese-maker has gained respect in recent years for its distribution of a variety of cheeses, from flavored cheeses including Butternut and Bacon varieties. Factory tours are ever popular. (2579 Main St., Cabot, 1-800-857-4291 cabotcheese.com)

#### Other locations:

- Griffin Village Cheese:** 432 Union St., Brattleboro 802-339-6336 griffinvillagecheese.com
- Anger Hill Farm:** 834 Green Hill Rd., Greenfield 302-254-0000 angerhillfarm.com
- Shelburne Farms Cheese:** 1071 Harder Rd., Shelburne 975-9586 shelsfarms.com
- Vermont Creamery:** 40 Vermont St., Newfane 802-5371 vermontcreamery.com

## BEST NATURAL FOODS MARKET

### City Market

Thanks to its status as a seller of every thickness of wild sock, organic and conventional food. Check out the bulk section (31-5 Wheelock Ave. Burlington 802-253-0100 citymarket.com)

#### Other locations:

- Healthy Living Market & Cafe:** 227 Corset St., South Burlington 802-434-8148 healthylivingmarket.com
- Vermont Premiums Deli & Cafe:** 202 Harvard Ln., South Burlington 802-253-0100

#### Additional locations:

- Sweet David Market:** 21 Essex Hwy., Essex Junction 802-838-8888 sweetdavidmarket.com
- Travis Area:** 200 Union St., South Burlington 802-486-0000 travisarea.com

## OUTSIDE CHITTENDEN COUNTY

### Hunger Mountain Co-op

Managers' quest for healthy choices offers a wide selection of locally sourced meats and go foods from sauge and sausage to grilled sandwiches. Call to order or enjoy it all over your lunch. (823 State St., Burlington 202-850-0000 hungermountaincoop.com)

#### Other locations:

- Waldenbury Harvest Foods Co-op:** 94 Shelburne St., Shelburne 248-1026 waldenburycoop.com
- Southwest Natural Foods:** 2703 Westbury Blvd., Westbury Center 244-5813 southwestnaturalfoods.com

## BEST FOOD TRUCK

### Beanie's Bus

This eat-and-run business has been around in 1994 — well before the current food truck trend. At Biscuit Park, the older operation creates the food's top dogs, home-style meat and cheeses. (Biscuit Park, Burlington)

#### Other locations:

- Duke V&B Cafe:** 200 Main St., Colchester 202-853-0000 dukevnb.com
- The Impregator:** 655-1796 Facebook
- Larry Farmer:** 800-801-1000 farmer1.com
- The Bug in a Can:** 6968 Route 11, Cambridge 332-3947 thebugincan.com

## BEST FOOD CART

### Hong's Chinese Dumplings

Personal service being a favorite to pedestrians with the work of filling a table and the dumplings, hot food is a popular hit. (200 Church St., Burlington 802-537-0000 hongsdumplings.com)

#### Other locations:

- A-Mazing Hot Kebab:** Burlington 253-0043 amazinghotkebab.com

#### Amor's Kitchen:

- Burlington:** 329-5223 amor'skitchen.com/monmouth
- See-It-See:** Church St., Montpelier 302-244-0000
- South End Bakery:** 108 Church St., Burlington 332-7771 facebook
- The Bakery:** 102 Union St., Burlington 342-0388 802-444-1111 Montpelier 302-244-0000 thebakery.com

## BEST FARMERS MARKET VENDOR

### Ramona Man

Devoted to a full range of organic food products, Ramona Man is a family-owned business and has been serving the community since 1980. (1001 Union St., Burlington 302-244-0000 ramonaman.com)

#### Other locations:

- Burlington:** 323-8100 1001 Union St., Burlington 802-244-0000 ramonaman.com
- Full Moon Farm:** 2041 Colchester Rd., Shelburne 248-2799 fullmoonfarm.com
- Heart Hill Farm:** 274 Vermont St., Burlington 302-253-0000 hearthillfarm.com
- Jacobsen's:** 1001 Union St., Burlington 302-244-0000 jacobsens.com
- Greenleaf Farm:** 204 Vermont St., Burlington 302-244-0000 greenleaf.com

## BEST BREAD BAKERY

### Red Hen Bakery

With a bakery and cafe, Red Hen is a family-owned business and has been serving the community since 1980. (1001 Union St., Burlington 302-244-0000 redhenbakery.com)

#### Other locations:

- August First Bakery & Cafe:** 1001 Union St., Burlington 302-244-0000 augustfirst.com
- Green Harvest Bread Company:** 1001 Union St., Burlington 302-244-0000 greenharvestbread.com
- King's Bread Company:** 1001 Union St., Burlington 302-244-0000 kingsbread.com
- O'Connell Bakery:** 1001 Union St., Burlington 302-244-0000 oconnell.com

## BEST SWEETS & BAKERY

### Mirabellas

Homemade pastries, cakes, breads and pies as well as delicious breads and lunch specials. (1001 Union St., Burlington 302-244-0000 mirabellas.com)

#### Other locations:

- August First Bakery & Cafe:** 1001 Union St., Burlington 302-244-0000 augustfirst.com
- Barnes Bakery:** 1001 Union St., Burlington 302-244-0000 barnesbakery.com
- Chen's Cakes & Bakery:** 1001 Union St., Burlington 302-244-0000 chenscakes.com
- Millery Lane Co. Baking:** 1001 Union St., Burlington 302-244-0000 millerylane.com
- My Little Cupcake:** 1001 Union St., Burlington 302-244-0000 mylittlecupcake.com
- Yammy's:** 1001 Union St., Burlington 302-244-0000 yammys.com

## BEST FOOD EVENT

### Burlington Farmers Market

Get your fix of local food, including fresh produce, meat and prepared foods. (City Hall Park, Burlington 802-253-0100 burlingtonfarmersmarket.org)

#### Other locations:

- Antelope Truck Stop:** 100 Vermont St., Burlington 302-244-0000 antelopetruckstop.com
- Burlington Urban & Rural Festival:** 1001 Union St., Burlington 302-244-0000 burlingtonurbanruralfestival.com
- Green Farm & Food Classic:** 1001 Union St., Burlington 302-244-0000 greenfarmandfood.com
- Vermont Creamery Festival:** 1001 Union St., Burlington 302-244-0000 vermontcreameryfestival.com
- Shelburne Farms:** 1001 Union St., Burlington 302-244-0000 shelburnefarms.com
- Shelburne Farms:** 1001 Union St., Burlington 302-244-0000 shelburnefarms.com
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# DRINK



In recent years, Vermont has earned a reputation as a bona fide beer mecca. In the most recent tally, our humble state was home to more than 40 breweries (and counting). And even as brewers and drinkers start to wonder whether this growth is sustainable, thirsty Vermonters keep lining up Oliver Twist-style for more.

The 2004 Vermont Brewers Festival sold out in a mere 11 minutes, breaking last year's 30-hour fire sale. In Chittenden County, beer nerds flock to Burlington's Farmhouse Tap & Grill for dozens of brews from around the region and world. Outside Chittenden County,

Waterbury's Prohibition Pig won a Geyser for its similarly stellar list.

Those seeking a tipple apple can also sip local liquids. Vermont's wine industry is growing like a vine and starting to gain recognition for producing fine fermentations. Local gins and whiskeys have become tap shelf standards.

To keep up with the glut, we've added

more than a dozen new drink categories to the Geyser list: gin for cocktails, beer and wine lots, breweries, and all manner of different bars are all new to our list of superlative sippers.

We've also added two new categories for ciders — hard and alcohol-free — to recognize Vermont's diversifying apple industry. While the people's grapes' all, Otis Oiler now has a Burlington listing near the port also spawned new companies such as Shuckbury Cider in Shoshoni.

And let's not forget the other folks who go with the flow: the bouillon, carefully checking IDs and booting the piously drunk, the friendly bartenders who know what you're drinking before you do, and the sassy bartenders who pour your morning fix, complete with that charming lattice art that makes your Monday



Jessie Clancy

## BEST CRAFT BREWERY

### Switchback Brewing Company

This cool new South-West-meets-Bell County opened a brand new tasting room in Burlington's South End. Now, 'til Fall's Green Days, you can sit down and order a pint and relax and go about the day. Try the Vermont State Pale Ale. (502 Pigeon Ave., Burlington 824-4704, [switchbackvt.com](http://switchbackvt.com))

#### Other Swatches

- Northwest Brewing Company** 8000 Shelburne Rd., Shelburne 399-2984, [nwbrewing.com](http://nwbrewing.com)
- Full Farmstead Brewery** 4231 66th St., Shelburne 392-2450, [fullfarmstead.com](http://fullfarmstead.com)
- Levi's Brewing** 254 Wilkins St., Montpelier 824-8200, [levisbrewing.com](http://levisbrewing.com)
- The Alchemist** (11000th pub) 13 Crossroad, Waterbury Center 244-0944, [thealchemistvt.com](http://thealchemistvt.com)

## BEST WINERY

### Shelburne Vineyard

Winegrower Ken Kibbey is growing some terrific grapes with his southern parent grapes in the vineyard and the cellar. Sample a few sips in the new crop Crystal Vines in the city tasting room. (3030 Shelburne Rd., Shelburne 392-2222, [shelburnevineyard.com](http://shelburnevineyard.com))

#### Other Vintages

- Stephen Hedges Winery** 60 VT Route 104, Cambridge 344-8100, [stephenhedges.com](http://stephenhedges.com)
- Fresh Thru Farm Vineyard and Winery** 4270 VT Route 12, Winooski 223-0240, [freshthru.com](http://freshthru.com)
- Liquid Park Vineyard** 540 River Rd., New Haven 563-3554, [liquidparkvineyard.com](http://liquidparkvineyard.com)
- Grove Farm Vineyard** 150 Mt. Grove Rd., South Hero 223-8552, [grovefarmvt.com](http://grovefarmvt.com)

## BEST DIVE BAR THE OTHER PLACE

Many a night begins and ends at the Other Place, just off the top of Burlington's Church Street on North Winooski Avenue. Whether patrons are musing a broken heart, celebrating a milestone or just enjoying day's end, the bar welcomes any and all with open arms, takes them in and holds them close.

It's a place of simple pleasures. The short draught list mixes local brews and cheap pinot; the popcorn is salty and the tacos are available late. On warm summer nights, an open garage door will blur the line between saloon and sidewalk, encouraging footloose on both sides.

The OP opened in 1980, but people have been looting in the building for generations. It was the site of a bar called Sullivan's and another named for Melville Filmworks, our nation's 14th president.

Now home to a mixed crowd of heady Topper drinking hipsters, old hands and denizens and a fair number of college students, the OP is the kind of neighborhood bar that's your bar from the moment you walk in.

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**Smuggler's Notch Distillery** 729 Main St.  
Jeffersonville 329-3077 [smugglersnotchdistillery.com](http://smugglersnotchdistillery.com)  
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# DRINK



## BEST WINE SHOP

### Cheese Traders and Wine Sellers

A multi-tier Oregon winner in a crowded market of more than 1,500 quality wineries, Cheese Traders and Wine Sellers is a local favorite of cheese and wine enthusiasts. Located in the heart of downtown Portland, the shop is a must-visit for anyone looking for a good bottle of wine or a cheese to go with it.

#### Other finalists:

- Clark Wine Bar & Market**, 1300 N. 2nd St., Portland 97208-4001, clarkwine.com
- Redwood Wine Shop**, 1400 N. 2nd St., Portland 97208-4001, redwoodwine.com
- Village Wine and Cheese**, 1111 N. 2nd St., Portland 97208-4001, villagewineandcheese.com
- Wine & Cheese**, 1111 N. 2nd St., Portland 97208-4001, wineandcheese.com

## BEST PICK-UP BAR

### Red Square

Red Square is a downtown Portland bar and live music venue. It's a great place to go for a drink and a live performance. The bar has a great atmosphere and a great selection of drinks.

#### Other finalists:

- Drinks**, 130 N. 2nd St., Portland 97208-4001, drinks.com
- Madison Public Pub**, 161 Main St., Portland 97208-4001, madisonpublicpub.com
- Necker**, 101 Main St., Portland 97208-4001, necker.com
- St. Basil's Pub**, 113 Church St., Portland 97208-4001, stbasils.com
- Three Heads Brewery & Taproom**, 145 East St., Portland 97208-4001, facebook.com

## BEST DIVE BAR

### The Other Place

The Other Place is a downtown Portland bar and live music venue. It's a great place to go for a drink and a live performance. The bar has a great atmosphere and a great selection of drinks.

#### Other finalists:

- Charlie's West**, 101 Main St., Portland 97208-4001, charlieswest.com
- Necker**, 101 Main St., Portland 97208-4001, necker.com
- St. Basil's Pub**, 113 Church St., Portland 97208-4001, stbasils.com
- Three Heads Brewery & Taproom**, 145 East St., Portland 97208-4001, facebook.com



## BEST HARD CIDER CITIZEN CIDER

Since Citizen Cider opened in 2011, its production has grown exponentially from 10,000 gallons in its inaugural year to 28,000 its second year. As of this printing, the cidery has already produced 100,000 gallons in 2014.

When it comes to Cider of the People's success has unfolded a well-earned reputation for innovation and creativity. At the 10-year-old cidery, what began as a simple, off-dry United Press has morphed into a line of six different standard ciders, including a hopped cider and a bourbon barrel-aged cider at Smugglers' Notch Distillery. A cider serves program pilots new processes and recipes.

At Citizen Cider's expansive Pine Street tasting room, which opened in spring 2014, patrons sip from rare ciders on draught, and enjoy hearty bar snacks such as \$3 pocket pies and a \$7 chicken biscuit. On Tuesdays, Austin natives in the kitchen bring real-deal treats to Burlington: on Thursdays, \$5 gets you a McKenna hot dog and tinfoil can of cider.

310 Pine St., Burlington • 440-8278 • citizencidery.com

## BEST SPORTS BAR

### Ri Ra Irish Pub

A lot of the Old Country in Burlington has been built on a foundation of Irish pub culture. Ri Ra Irish Pub is a local favorite of sports fans and party animals. The bar has a great atmosphere and a great selection of drinks.

#### Other finalists:

- Buffalo Wild Wings Grill & Bar**, 200 S. Main St., Burlington 97302, buffalowildwings.com
- Church Street Tavern**, 100 Church St., Burlington 97302, churchstreettavern.com
- Necker**, 101 Main St., Burlington 97208-4001, necker.com
- Worms Sports Cafe**, 1100 Williston St., Burlington 97302, wormsportscafe.com

## BEST PLACE TO DRINK ALONE

### Radio Bean

This popular downtown Portland bar and live music venue is a great place to go for a drink and a live performance. The bar has a great atmosphere and a great selection of drinks.

#### Other finalists:

- The Main Bar**, 101 Main St., Portland 97208-4001, themainbar.com
- The Other Place**, 101 Main St., Portland 97208-4001, theotherplace.com
- Three Heads Brewery & Taproom**, 145 East St., Portland 97208-4001, facebook.com
- Three Heads Brewery & Taproom**, 145 East St., Portland 97208-4001, facebook.com

## BEST BAR (OVERALL)

### The Farmhouse Tap & Grill

The Farmhouse Tap & Grill is a downtown Portland bar and live music venue. It's a great place to go for a drink and a live performance. The bar has a great atmosphere and a great selection of drinks.

#### Other finalists:

- Madison Public Pub**, 161 Main St., Portland 97208-4001, madisonpublicpub.com
- Necker**, 101 Main St., Portland 97208-4001, necker.com
- St. Basil's Pub**, 113 Church St., Portland 97208-4001, stbasils.com
- Three Heads Brewery & Taproom**, 145 East St., Portland 97208-4001, facebook.com



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# DRINK



## BEST BOUNCERS

### Higher Ground

This premier nightclub in South Burlington needs a continuous supply of bands and DJs. (1100) is the largest funk and soul venue in the state. (602) 455-1100. [www.higherground.com](http://www.higherground.com)

#### Other finalists

**Manhattan Plaza Pub** 161 Main St., Burlington 455-4376. [manhattanpub.com](http://manhattanpub.com)  
**Recluse** 171 Main St., Burlington 658-4775. [reclusepub.com](http://reclusepub.com)  
**Red Square** 136 Church St., Burlington 455-5555. [redsquarevt.com](http://redsquarevt.com)  
**Three Rivers Brewery & Taproom**, 375 North St., Burlington 658-5573. [threevt.com](http://threevt.com)

## BEST BARTENDER

### Kate Wine, Prohibition Pig

She may or it be an enigma, but this enigmatic bar has a devoted following that has led to her being named one of the best bartenders in the state. (203) 455-1100. [prohibitionpig.com](http://prohibitionpig.com)

#### Other finalists

**Black Holes (Church Street Tavern)**, 160 Church St., Burlington 455-1099. [churchstreettavern.com](http://churchstreettavern.com)  
**Chester's** 145 Main St., Burlington 455-1100. [chester.com](http://chester.com)  
**Red Square** 136 Church St., Burlington 455-5555. [redsquarevt.com](http://redsquarevt.com)  
**Three Rivers Brewery & Taproom**, 375 North St., Burlington 658-5573. [threevt.com](http://threevt.com)

## BEST BLOODY MARY

### Sneakers Bistro & Café

The restaurant's menu is a mix of signature and locally sourced. (602) 455-1100. [sneakersbistro.com](http://sneakersbistro.com)

#### Other finalists

**American Restaurant** 161 Main St., Burlington 658-4376. [americanrestaurant.com](http://americanrestaurant.com)  
**Lawrence's** 145 Main St., Burlington 455-1100. [lawrences.com](http://lawrences.com)  
**Red Square** 136 Church St., Burlington 455-5555. [redsquarevt.com](http://redsquarevt.com)  
**Three Rivers Brewery & Taproom**, 375 North St., Burlington 658-5573. [threevt.com](http://threevt.com)



Kate Wine

## BEST BARTENDER, BEST DRAUGHT BEER LIST, BEST BREWPUB

### PROHIBITION PIG

Waterbury's Prohibition Pig is renowned for its meats, tender smoky barbecue melding the best of Southern tradition and Vermont ingredients. But it's also respected for its draught list, which brings beers as locally as two dozen on any given night — with such from super exclusive, world class breweries such as Burlington's Zero Gravity Craft Brewery and Vermont's Hill Farmstead Brewery and Waterbury's the Alchemist.

In 2013, owner Chad Rich and brewer Matt Johnson decided to take a crack at making their own beer. Their flagship brew Prohibition Pig (Ale) started selling faster than they could make it. Now they're making everything from low ABV session sips to a powerful double IPA, a real ale with lambics and several others.

And there's a lot more on the way. With construction underway that will expand the building, the Pig's brew operation will grow significantly, making way for new beers and more of them.

33 South Main St., Waterbury 244-6120 • [prohibitionpig.com](http://prohibitionpig.com)

## BEST COCKTAILS

### The Daily Planet

The Planet has been a hip, stationery farmhouse since it opened in 1982. There's a focus on doing new and easy greenhouse that requires little to do on the bar instead of those second winding cocktails being made. (203) 455-1100. [planetpub.com](http://planetpub.com)

#### Other finalists

**Black** 133 St. Paul St., Burlington 658-6453. [blackvt.com](http://blackvt.com)  
**Gold Tavern** 103 Main St., South Burlington 481-1000. [goldtavern.com](http://goldtavern.com)  
**Jasper Bar & Restaurant** 41 Cherry St., Burlington 455-5555. [jasperbar.com](http://jasperbar.com)  
**Lawrence's** 145 Main St., Burlington 455-1100. [lawrences.com](http://lawrences.com)  
**Red Square** 136 Church St., Burlington 455-5555. [redsquarevt.com](http://redsquarevt.com)

## BEST SMOOTHIES/ JUICES

### Muddy Waters

For 20 years this family restaurant has served up a range of big and fluffy drinks and it's now a top spot for a variety of smoothies. (602) 455-1100. [muddywaters.com](http://muddywaters.com)

#### Other finalists

**Don't Drink and Drive** 600 Main St., Burlington 481-1000. [dontdrinkanddrive.com](http://dontdrinkanddrive.com)  
**Healthy Living Market & Café** 202 Green St., South Burlington 658-2589. [healthylivingmarket.com](http://healthylivingmarket.com)  
**Long House Café** 100 Cherry St., Burlington 373-1900. [longhousecafe.com](http://longhousecafe.com)  
**The Juice Bar** 41 Church St., Burlington 777-7888. [thejuicebar.com](http://thejuicebar.com)

## BEST TEAHOUSE

### Dobrá Tea

More than 30 varieties of direct sourced international loose leaf teas are served in a location in this historic house. (602) 455-1100. [dobratea.com](http://dobratea.com)

#### Other finalists

**North Woods Café** 41 State St., Montpelier 255-6555. [northwoodscafe.com](http://northwoodscafe.com)  
**Stone Leaf Tea House** 11 Maple St., Montpelier 458-0458. [stoneleaftea.com](http://stoneleaftea.com)  
**Sweet Tea House** 34 Elm St., Montpelier 255-1431. [sweettea.com](http://sweettea.com)  
**Uncle Sam's Coffee & Tea** 41 Church St., Burlington 658-2589. [unclesamscoffee.com](http://unclesamscoffee.com)



# BEST COFFEE SHOP

## Uncommon Grounds Coffee and Tea

The in-house roasting, specialty service and environmental floor seating make this a place on the Church Street Marketplace. So do the organic and nutritious, chef-inspired made-from-scratch sandwiches baked goods. Look for local art on the walls. 102 Church St., Burlington, 855-8271 [uncommonvt.com](http://uncommonvt.com)

### Other finalists:

- Hugobonero** 41 Maple St., Burlington, 951-7023 [facebook.com/hugobonero](http://facebook.com/hugobonero)
- Woolly Wares** 184 Main St., Burlington, 338-8458 [facebook.com/woollywares](http://facebook.com/woollywares)
- Spender & Earth Coffee Roastery** 402 Pine St., Burlington, 858-8278, 104 Church St., Burlington, 850-6630 [spenderandearth.com](http://spenderandearth.com)
- Harvest Coffee** 2332 Burlington Town Cir., Burlington, 531-6684, 1330 Shelburne Rd., South Burlington, 531-0939, 1782 Williston Rd., South Burlington, 531-6474 [harvestcoffee.com](http://harvestcoffee.com)

# OUTSIDE CHITTENDEN COUNTY

## Capitol Grounds Café

Innovative decaf coffee drinks and fun, the casual cafe serves hearty soups, sandwiches and pastries. Local art hangs on the walls. Take home: homemade acai – high in the hills and Aulac road, visit in-state farmer's market (373 State St., Montpelier, 223-9920 [capitolgrounds.com](http://capitolgrounds.com))

### Other finalists:

- Brinkgreen Baking** 270 Elm St., Montpelier, 223-5350 [brinkgreenbaking.com](http://brinkgreenbaking.com)
- Black Cap Coffee Roasters** 144 Maple St., Stowe, 333-3733 [facebook.com/blackcapcoffee](http://facebook.com/blackcapcoffee)

# BEST COFFEE ROASTER

## Kourig Green Mountain

Family-owned Green Mountain Coffee Roasters, this publicly traded company, a line of Vermont's largest. Founded in 1961, the roaster has and serves people in the cup on "K-Cup" brewing options. Thanks to the cult and social center built in an old train station in Weymouth. 111 Main St., Weymouth, 878-3328 [greenmountaincoffee.com](http://greenmountaincoffee.com)

### Other finalists:

- Capitol Grounds Café** 27 Elm St., Montpelier, 223-7002 [capitolgrounds.com](http://capitolgrounds.com)
- Spender & Earth Coffee Roastery** 402 Pine St., Burlington, 858-8278, 104 Church St., Burlington, 850-6630 [spenderandearth.com](http://spenderandearth.com)
- Uncommon Grounds Coffee and Tea** 102 Church St., Burlington, 855-8271 [uncommonvt.com](http://uncommonvt.com)
- Harvest Coffee** 2332 Burlington Town Cir., Burlington, 531-6684, 1330 Shelburne Rd., South Burlington, 531-0939, 1782 Williston Rd., South Burlington, 531-6474 [harvestcoffee.com](http://harvestcoffee.com)
- Worms Coffee Company** 100 Exchange St., Suite 101, Williston, 258-2078 [wormscoffee.com](http://wormscoffee.com)

# BEST BAKIST

## Baristas at Uncommon Grounds and Tea

The Church Street Marketplace vendor also works together for best coffee shop, and the friendly specialty baristas are happy to help. In-house roasting and seasonal outdoor seating. Uncommon is a popular spot for locals and visitors alike. 102 Church St., Burlington, 855-8271 [uncommonvt.com](http://uncommonvt.com)

### Other finalists:

- Baristas at Uncommon Coffee Shop** 102 Church St., Burlington, 850-6630 [uncommonvt.com](http://uncommonvt.com)
- Dark Galaxy Coffee** (Hugobonero) 41 Maple St., Burlington, 951-7023
- Kim Ruse** (Spender & Earth Coffee Roaster) 402 Pine St., Burlington, 858-8278, 104 Church St., Burlington, 850-6630 [spenderandearth.com](http://spenderandearth.com)
- Logan Brewster/Barista Coffee Co.** (Kilpatrick) 48 Main St., Weymouth, 878-3328 [baristacoffee.com](http://baristacoffee.com)
- Rye & Honey Spender & Earth Coffee** 104 Church St., Burlington, 850-6630 [spenderandearth.com](http://spenderandearth.com)

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# ARTS + ENTERTAINMENT

## Well, the people have spoken.

And it seems they're saying the same thing: they've been saying for years. The people love them some Grace Potter. Vermont's highest-profile rock diva and her band, the Nocturnals, were pretty much every Dopyes award they qualified for in 2014, and even one they kinda didn't—we're calling Grace a singer songwriter now! All righty then.

This year's list of Dopyes ACE awards is a tad heavier than in previous years because we added a slew of new categories. In music alone, we expanded to 13 categories breaking out by genre and roles such as sound engineers and record labels.

Voters responded by giving props to a wide variety of artists and others who share in the local music, theater, film, visual art, and comedy scenes.

If you see a name here that you don't recognize, do yourself a favor and check it out. Trust us: ACE is worth your time. After all, Grace couldn't win everything.

COURTESY: WAYLON SPEED



Wylon Speed: frontman Aaron Greenwald, left; lead guitarist and Kelly Boudin.

## BEST AMERICANA ARTIST / GROUP

### WYOLON SPEED

For years, Burlington's Wylon Speed have not so quietly made a name for themselves in Vermont. We call them high-octane blend of country and metal "speedweird." But recently that Slayian-meets sound has begun to attract ears beyond our borders. The band's 2014 album *Kin* is easily among the finest local releases of the year and has helped national audiences discover what Vermonters have known all along: Wylon Speed rock. Underground outlaw dirt rock, as they put it.

[wylonspeed.com](http://wylonspeed.com)

## BEST LARGE LIVE MUSIC VENUE

### Higher Ground

A former nightclub on the waterfront, Higher Ground has two performance spaces: the 400-seat amphitheater (featuring national acts) and the Showcase Lounge for smaller groups and local bands (1214 Waterfront Rd., South Burlington, 332-0271, [highergroundvt.com](http://highergroundvt.com)).

#### Other finalists:

- Burlington Waterfront Park** (Lake St., Burlington, [enjoyburlington.com/parks/waterfrontpark.htm](http://enjoyburlington.com/parks/waterfrontpark.htm))
- The Flynn Center for the Performing Arts** (121 New St., Burlington, 332-4322, [flynncenter.org](http://flynncenter.org))
- Recital** (91 Main St., Burlington, 332-4179, [vermontarts.com](http://vermontarts.com))
- Sho Brown Theater** (5620 Dufferin Rd., Burlington, 332-3355, [shobrowntheater.com](http://shobrowntheater.com))

## BEST SMALL LOCAL MUSIC HOT SPOT

### Higher Ground

Like the larger performance space at Higher Ground, the Showcase Lounge gives, but doesn't, really will tell you many special nights at H&G happen in the city's Showroom Lounge, where you'll catch bands on the edge of being a great local act or a great local act. (1014 Waterfront Rd., South Burlington, 332-0271, [highergroundvt.com](http://highergroundvt.com)).

#### Other finalists:

- The Ministry Wine** (16 Main St., Windsor, 332-4302, [ministrywine.com](http://ministrywine.com))
- Barley's Microbrewery** (111 Main St., Burlington, 332-4177, [barleysmicro.com](http://barleysmicro.com))
- Rattle House** (11 North Main St., Burlington, 332-3348, [rattlehouse.com](http://rattlehouse.com))
- Signal Kitchen** (71 Main St., Burlington, 332-2272, [signalkitchen.com](http://signalkitchen.com))

## BEST PLACE TO PLAY POOL

### Three Needs Brewery & Taproom

A family-friendly spot, Three Needs Brewery & Taproom, and a local brewery, offering local beers and food to a great local crowd. (161 Main St., Burlington, 332-3348, [3needs.com](http://3needs.com)).

#### Other finalists:

- Charlie O's World Famous** (70 Main St., Montpelier, 332-3732, [charlieos.com](http://charlieos.com))
- Manchester Plaza & Pub** (111 Main St., Burlington, 332-3348, [manchestersquarepub.com](http://manchestersquarepub.com))
- Barley's** (111 Main St., Burlington, 332-4177, [barleysmicro.com](http://barleysmicro.com))
- Van Pelt Brewery & Bar** (33 East Ave., South Burlington, 332-4177, [vanpeltbrewery.com](http://vanpeltbrewery.com))

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## BEST PLACE TO DANCE

## Club Metronome

Since the 1980s, this has been the place to shake your thing, especially at the enduring 80s night, *Saturday Night Fever*. Touting old-school funk acts performs during the week. (418 Main St., Burlington 855-4363 [clubmetronome.com](http://clubmetronome.com))

## Other favorites:

- Off Broadway** 126 Ly Church St., Burlington 854-0012, Facebook
- Higher Ground** 1004 Williston Rd., South Burlington 852-3700 [highergroundmusic.com](http://highergroundmusic.com)
- Revelers** 791 Main St., Burlington 854-4775 [revelersburl.com](http://revelersburl.com)
- Red Square** 125 Church St., Burlington 855-8309 [redsquarevt.com](http://redsquarevt.com)

## BEST TRIVIA NIGHT

## Nectar's

Known nationally as the bar where *Push* was born, Nectar's has long been a local hangout, both for the bar music and the fun and games it also got the crowd — including — involving neon sign-in team. (811 Main St., Burlington 852-4771 [nectarsvt.com](http://nectarsvt.com))

## Other favorites:

- Jungo Bar & Restaurant** 42 Cherry St., Burlington 853-0582 [jungobart.com](http://jungobart.com)
- On Tap Bar & Grill** 4 Park St., Essex Junction 878-3308 [ontapbar.com](http://ontapbar.com)
- Prosser's Prosser's & Levinge** 3033 Main St., Waterbury 203-415-1111 [prossers.com](http://prossers.com)
- Ts Debrah Pub** 533 Church St., Burlington 852-4521 [tspub.com/burlington](http://tspub.com/burlington)

## BEST KARAOKE

## JP's Pub

This friendly Burlington institution offers karaoke that might make you sing there are also pool and outdoor decks and bocce court. (104 Main St., Burlington 855-8383 [jpspub.com](http://jpspub.com))

## Other favorites:

- Charles O's World Famous** 79 Main St., Montpelier 252-5232
- Manhattan Place Pub** 791 Main St., Burlington 564-6376 [manhattanplacepub.com](http://manhattanplacepub.com)
- The Burlington Pub** 62 Park St., Essex Junction 878-3434 [theburlingtonpub.com](http://theburlingtonpub.com)
- The St. John's Club** 8 Davis Rd., Burlington 854-8109 [stjohnsclub.com](http://stjohnsclub.com)
- DeWine's** 383 Church St., Burlington 582-2845, Facebook

## BEST STANDUP COMIC

## Josie Leavitt

This very funny lady is a smart, single-friendly responsible for launching a sitcom comedy scene in Vermont. She performs with the Comedy Club and has featured around comedy through regular shows at Playhouse. ([josieleavitt.com](http://josieleavitt.com))

## Other favorites:

- Joni Leavitt** @joniavitt
- Rebecca Hartman** [rebeccahartman.com](http://rebeccahartman.com)
- Careen Leggett** [careenleggett.com](http://careenleggett.com)
- Chief Peterson** @ChiefPeterson



## BEST COMMUNITY EVENT/FESTIVAL

## THE SOUTH END ART HOP

More than 30,000 art lovers and patrons flock to the annual South End Art Hop, which runs along and near Burlington's Pine Street and includes dozens of open studios, gallery events, food vendors, music, indoors and out, and other music-famous fun. On Saturday night, Street, the fashion show featuring local designers, regularly sells out, its the only ticketed component of Vermont's largest art event, put on by the South End Arts and Business Association and staffed by hundreds of volunteer vendors.

484 Pine St., Burlington • 855-8322 • [seahop.com](http://seahop.com)

## BEST DRUG PERFORMER / GROUP

## The House of LeMay

Visitors might be surprised to learn that Vermont has three performers, but in fact the House of LeMay is the Burlington. More than three people in the band, "Antler" Margulies and "Lucky" Miller bring classic rock to the stage with a twist in their. ([houseoflemay.com](http://houseoflemay.com))

## Other favorites:

- King Local 888** Facebook
- The Ladies of Rock**
- Major Fazer** Facebook
- Major Mayhem** Facebook

## BEST VOCALIST

## Gracie Potter

Given that 354 Taylor called Gracie Potter "the best female singer in the country" in 1958, Gracie Potter is a name you should know. She's a singer, songwriter, and producer who's been in the business since just past 2000. ([graciepotter.com](http://graciepotter.com))

## Other favorites:

- Gregory Douglas** [gregorydouglas.com](http://gregorydouglas.com)
- Major Fazer** [majorfazer.com](http://majorfazer.com)
- Josh Pender** [joshpender.com](http://joshpender.com)
- Kat Wright** [katwrightband.com](http://katwrightband.com)

## BEST INSTRUMENTALIST

## Dave Grippio

From his improvisation and his Grippio Funk band got their start in 1998 performing every Monday night at Red Square. For seven years, Dave has been shaping the next generation of players. Grippio is simply the most important band in town.

## Other favorites:

- Paul Kellie** [paulkellie.com](http://paulkellie.com)
- Jay Ellis** [jayellis.com/songs](http://jayellis.com/songs)
- Peter Gray**
- Rob Wagner** [robwagner.com](http://robwagner.com)
- Rob Wagner** Facebook

## BEST SINGER / SONGWRITER

## Gracie Potter

Most have been there since she's been a singer, but it's not just her talent as a songwriter that's gotten her into the mix of the local scene. Gracie Potter has been a songwriter since 2003 and has the talent to make the most of it. ([graciepotter.com](http://graciepotter.com))

## Other favorites:

- Gregory Douglas** [gregorydouglas.com](http://gregorydouglas.com)
- End George** [endgeorge.com](http://endgeorge.com)
- Major Fazer** [majorfazer.com](http://majorfazer.com)
- Josh Pender** [joshpender.com](http://joshpender.com)
- Major Fazer** [majorfazer.com](http://majorfazer.com)
- Kat Wright** [katwrightband.com](http://katwrightband.com)

## BEST FACIAL HAIR

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## BEST RECORDING STUDIO / ENGINEER

### Walter Westinghouse

Walter Westinghouse is an audio engineer for Higher Ground. Special Riders and the band El Celler. His engineering skills are based on technical knowledge, including Pro Tools and digital audio workstations.

#### Other finalists

- Ryan Cohen, *Robert Dug Moller*, 25 Orange St., 800-888-5555, 7030, rcohen@redbull.com
- David DeCristo, *Sigmar Kitcher*, 31 Park St., Burlington, 788-2310, sigmar@redbull.com
- Andre Haggren, *Steve Gasser*, 1444 West St., Fort Lauder, 324-7533, gasser@redbull.com
- Colin McCaffrey, *Pro*, 310 St. East, Hamilton, 454-1333, colin@redbull.com
- Rob Dea & Chris DeLoatch, *The Hawk*, 124 North Woodside Ave., Burlington, 440-2855, hawke@redbull.com



BONUS

## BEST-DRESSED MAN

**ANDREW CLIFF**  
Burlington

## BEST AMERICANA ARTIST / GROUP

### Waylon Speed

Waylon Speed is the most talented band to make national waves. Our money would be on Waylon Speed. These rock and roll warriors continue to drive bigger and bigger crowds for individual tours. They're also to be seen touring with a star musician and their duo. Hey, it's not just a party with friends, it's right here (redbull.com).

#### Other finalists

- Burlington David Bryer, *Waylon Speed*, 1000 Burlington Blvd., Burlington, 440-2855, waylon@redbull.com
- Steve Hughes, *Waylon Speed*, 1000 Burlington Blvd., Burlington, 440-2855, waylon@redbull.com
- Steve Hughes, *Waylon Speed*, 1000 Burlington Blvd., Burlington, 440-2855, waylon@redbull.com

## BEST FUNK / R&B ARTIST / GROUP

### Kat Wright & the Indomitable Soul Band

The Indomitable Soul Band is a funk and soul band. Kat Wright is the lead singer. The band is based in Burlington. They have a long history of performing at local venues. They have a strong following of fans. They have a strong following of fans. They have a strong following of fans.

#### Other finalists

- Steve Brown Band, *grupp@redbull.com*
- Paul Brown, *grupp@redbull.com*
- Sam of the Week, *grupp@redbull.com*
- Sam of the Week, *grupp@redbull.com*

## BEST JAZZ / BLUES ARTIST / GROUP

### Kat Wright & the Indomitable Soul Band

The Indomitable Soul Band is a funk and soul band. Kat Wright is the lead singer. The band is based in Burlington. They have a long history of performing at local venues. They have a strong following of fans. They have a strong following of fans. They have a strong following of fans.

#### Other finalists

- Paul Brown, *grupp@redbull.com*
- Sam of the Week, *grupp@redbull.com*
- Sam of the Week, *grupp@redbull.com*
- Sam of the Week, *grupp@redbull.com*

## BEST ROCK ARTIST / GROUP

### Graze Potter and the Nocturnals

The Nocturnals are a rock band. Graze Potter is the lead singer. The band is based in Burlington. They have a long history of performing at local venues. They have a strong following of fans. They have a strong following of fans. They have a strong following of fans.

#### Other finalists

- Graze Potter, *grupp@redbull.com*
- Josh Potter, *grupp@redbull.com*
- Josh Potter, *grupp@redbull.com*
- Josh Potter, *grupp@redbull.com*

## BEST HIP-HOP ARTIST / GROUP

### The Lyngnistic Civilians

The Lyngnistic Civilians are a hip-hop band. They have a long history of performing at local venues. They have a strong following of fans. They have a strong following of fans. They have a strong following of fans.

#### Other finalists

- ADPT, *grupp@redbull.com*
- The ADPT, *grupp@redbull.com*
- The ADPT, *grupp@redbull.com*
- The ADPT, *grupp@redbull.com*

## BEST ELECTRONIC MUSIC DJ / GROUP

### Craig Mitchell

Craig Mitchell is a DJ. He has a long history of performing at local venues. He has a strong following of fans. He has a strong following of fans. He has a strong following of fans.



### DJ A-Dog

DJ A-Dog is a DJ. He has a long history of performing at local venues. He has a strong following of fans. He has a strong following of fans. He has a strong following of fans.

#### Other finalists

- DJ A-Dog, *grupp@redbull.com*
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- DJ A-Dog, *grupp@redbull.com*

## BEST STANDUP COMIC

### JOSIE LEAVITT

Josie Leavitt is the most talented standup comedian. She has a long history of performing at local venues. She has a strong following of fans. She has a strong following of fans. She has a strong following of fans.

josie@redbull.com



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10

# SHOPPING

**OK, true confession: We all like to shop at chains and big box stores now and again.** But in Vermont, lots of folks are more loyal to local. We're just not seeing a lot of "Walmart" in your votes, and that's why few places in the Green Mountain State resemble Everywhere USA. Its cool, too, because a preponderance of independently owned small businesses better serve the local economy, give us more options and make shopping more fun. Would we like say Burlington's Church Street Marketplace so much if it offered just one giant store? No way.

Such is lovely that Seven Days readers tend to cast their votes for the same stores year after year — no reason to radically change one's tastes, really, unless a new contender turns heads. But in some categories the finalists are actually pretty close, and an incremental change can land a different one on top.

That was the case this year with women's boutique ECCO. A perennial winner for best evening wear, it also captured a Day's for best casual clothing in Chittenden County. Bargain-conscious Vermonters moved Once Upon a Child to Day's status for children's clothing. And Earls Cycles & Fitness made tracks to the top for best bike shop (in Chittenden County).

But some stores apparently can't be budged from the don't-go-changing-a-camp among them Outdoor Gear Exchange, Epic of the World, Mirror Mirror Pet, Food Warehouse, Bear Pond Books, Gardeners Supply and Automaxx. For them we have just one word: congratulations.



## BEST WOMEN'S CASUAL CLOTHING STORE

### ECCO

This Church Street boutique carries the latest in women's dresses, casual evening wear and accessories. 311 Church St., Burlington. 855-2226. [eccochristchurch.com](http://eccochristchurch.com)

#### Other finalists

- Bella Boutique**: 68 Church St., Burlington. 852-1751. [bellaboutique.com](http://bellaboutique.com)
- Jess Boutique**: 58 Church St., Burlington. 855-4004. [jessboutique.com](http://jessboutique.com)
- Looking for College St.**: Burlington. 852-7175. [lookingforcollege.com](http://lookingforcollege.com)
- Studio Max**: 38 Church St., Burlington. 854-1802. [studio-max.com](http://studio-max.com)
- Sweet Lady Jane**: 43 Church St., Burlington. 852-5031. [sweetladyjane.biz](http://sweetladyjane.biz)

## OUTSIDE CHITTENDEN COUNTY

### Green Envy Boutique

This upstate boutique carries women's casual and business attire with unique fashion accessories according to owner Marylou Bonni's environmentally conscious ethos. 1490 Mountain Dr., State, 553-2855. [www.greenenvy.com](http://www.greenenvy.com)

#### Other finalists

- 4 Seasons Boutique**: 48 Main St., Montpelier. 224-1818. Facebook
- Salsom Boutique**: 40 State St., Montpelier. 223-4320. [salsomboutique.com](http://salsomboutique.com)

## BEST WOMEN'S EVENING WEAR STORE

### ECCO

Need tuxedo dress? This Church Street boutique carries the latest evening wear and accessories, ranging from earthy and over-the-top. 311 Church St., Burlington. 855-2226. [eccochristchurch.com](http://eccochristchurch.com)

#### Other finalists

- Jess Boutique**: 58 Church St., Burlington. 855-4004. [jessboutique.com](http://jessboutique.com)
- Looking for College St.**: Burlington. 855-1802. [lookingforcollege.com](http://lookingforcollege.com)
- Studio Max**: 38 Church St., Burlington. 852-4251. Facebook
- Chic Date**: 144 Main St., Burlington. 854-7746. [chicdatevermont.com](http://chicdatevermont.com)
- Sweet Lady Jane**: 43 Church St., Burlington. 852-5031. [sweetladyjane.biz](http://sweetladyjane.biz)

## BEST MEN'S WEAR

### Outdoor Gear Exchange

Vermont men are great at dresses — men Buckle Omyearmen's Green Brothers — and Outdoor Gear offers "tailor-made" knits, enough to keep them in clothes. It carries all the levers including Vermont-made Bear Tough socks. 30 Church St., Burlington. 852-0956. [ogex.com](http://ogex.com)

#### Other finalists

- Barnes Republika**: 38 Church St., Burlington. 852-3332. [barnesrepublika.com](http://barnesrepublika.com)
- J. Crew**: 5 Burlington Square, Burlington. 854-1558. [jcrew.com](http://jcrew.com)
- Michael Barnes**: 31 Church St., Burlington. 852-3332. Facebook
- Men's Wardrobe**: 39 Canal W., Williston. 878-1554. [menwardrobe.com](http://menwardrobe.com)



## BEST CHILDREN'S STORE ONCE UPON A CHILD

The store's motto is a double entendre: It keeps gently used children's clothing, furniture, toys and other necessities and sells them to, in the case of the Williston outlet, bargain-conscious Vermonters. What savvy parent isn't jacking good deals on items for tots who grow up all too fast? When they do, mom and dad can offload those too small clothes and highchairs back at Once Upon a Child. What goes around, comes around. That must be why the store's motto is "Buy. Sell. Repeat."

38 Taft Corners Shopping Center, Williston • 878-5434 • [www.onceuponachildwilliston.com](http://www.onceuponachildwilliston.com)

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# SHOPPING

## BEST SHOE STORE

### Danform Shoes

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#### Other Boutiques

- Over Easy** 311 Church St., Burlington 854-5335, overeasy.com
- Lenny's Shoes & Apparel** 1121 Church Rd., W. 1st fl. 876-8802, 1308 Marsh Way St., Barre 476-5444, 2180 Swanton Rd., St. Albans, 511-6132, 495 Town Mtn Rd., Pharsburg, NH 2031, 316 N. 1820, Langdonport.com
- Shoe-Hive** 96 Church St., Burlington 854-3800, shoehive.com
- The Shoe Room Boutiques** 9 Langdon St., Montpelier 223-3354, shoeinroom.com

## BEST SECOND HAND CLOTHING

### Second Time Around

The 20-year-old Burlington company has its roots in Burlington Church Street Marketplace. The shop is popular for its new and mint-condition clothing and designer finds. 118 Church St., Burlington, 854-9030, secondtimearound.net

#### Other Boutiques

- Battery Street Jeans** 11 Middle Ave., Burlington 855-5223, battery.com
- Reckless** 1040 Shelburne Rd., South Burlington 855-5309, 329 Sherman St., W. 1st fl. 109-0249, reckless.com
- Old Girl** 910 Main St., Burlington 854-1995, oldgirlboutique.com
- Pinkie & Co.** 34 First Common Shopping Center Mall, St. Albans 529-6001, pinkieandco.com

## BEST CHILDREN'S CLOTHING

### Once Upon A Child

Single parents and Veterans find the gently used clothing at this store a little easier to give up. 101 Church St., Burlington 854-9030, 1041 Huntington Dr., Chesham 953-2913, 3050 Shelburne Rd., Shelburne 965-3493, 150 Swanton Rd., St. Albans 529-8965, onceuponachild.com

#### Other Boutiques

- Battered Boutiques** 64 Harvard St., 850 W. 1st fl. 854-7912, batteredboutiques.com
- Children's Outlet** 11 Evans Way St., St. Albans 529-1127, childrensoutlet.com
- Emp Kids** 419 Church St., Burlington 854-7930, empkids.com, 101 Church St., Burlington 854-7930
- Yellow Birds** 1799 Montpelier Rd., Stowe 253-4434, yellowbirds.com
- Styline** 70 Main St., Montpelier 223-3354, 1041 Huntington Dr., Chesham 953-2913



## BEST LINGERIE STORE

### ARISTELLE

Need a lift? This independently owned Burlington boutique prides itself on superior bra fitting for every woman's body. From everyday to special occasion lingerie, maternity wear to swimwear, Aristelle carries numerous brands in an impressive variety of sizes. The store also offers gift registries with lab and special orders, and happily hosts events such as bridal showers and girlfriend nights. After all, what lies beneath is every woman's secret.

81 Church St., Burlington • 852-5464 • aristelle.com

## BEST EYEGLASSES

### Eyes of the World

For over 15 years, Eyes of the World has been a one-stop shop for all your eyewear needs. 101 Church St., Burlington 854-7930, 1041 Huntington Dr., Chesham 953-2913, 3050 Shelburne Rd., Shelburne 965-3493, 150 Swanton Rd., St. Albans 529-8965, eyesoftheworld.com

#### Other Boutiques

- Contour** 218 Essex Mountain Rd., W. 1st fl. 854-7930, 1041 Huntington Dr., Chesham 953-2913, 3050 Shelburne Rd., Shelburne 965-3493, 150 Swanton Rd., St. Albans 529-8965, contour.com
- The Optical Center** 101 Church St., Burlington 854-7930, 1041 Huntington Dr., Chesham 953-2913, 3050 Shelburne Rd., Shelburne 965-3493, 150 Swanton Rd., St. Albans 529-8965, theopticalcenter.com

## BEST PLACE TO BUY JEWELRY

### Perrywinkle's Fine Jewelry

Perrywinkle's hand-selects diamonds and gems from around the world for its elegant, trendy and also comes in many different styles of jewelry. 101 Church St., Burlington 854-7930, perrywinkles.com

#### Other Boutiques

- Tab-Tan Jewels** 115 Bank St., Burlington 855-3243, tabtanjewels.com
- Treasures Imports** 101 Church St., Burlington 854-7930, treasuresimports.com
- Van-Regan Jewelry** 101 Church St., Burlington 854-7930, van-regan.com
- Wendy's Jewelry** 101 Church St., Burlington 854-7930, wendysjewelry.com
- Wendy's Jewelry** 101 Church St., Burlington 854-7930, wendysjewelry.com

## BEST BEAUTY PRODUCT PURVEYOR

### Mirror Mirror

Extensive lines of high-quality makeup and skin care products from award-winning brands. 101 Church St., Burlington 854-7930, mirrormirror.com

#### Other Boutiques

- M&C Cosmetics** 101 Church St., Burlington 855-1080, mncosmetics.com
- Regina's** 110 Church St., South Burlington 855-6884, reginas.com
- Spa & Beauty** 101 Church St., Burlington 854-7930, spaandbeauty.com
- The Body Shop** 101 Church St., Burlington 854-7930, thebodyshop.com

## BEST PET SUPPLY STORE

### Pet Food Warehouse

Since 1983, Pet Food Warehouse has been a one-stop shop for all your pet supplies. 101 Church St., Burlington 854-7930, 1041 Huntington Dr., Chesham 953-2913, 3050 Shelburne Rd., Shelburne 965-3493, petfoodwarehouse.com

#### Other Boutiques

- Spa & Beauty** 101 Church St., Burlington 854-7930, spaandbeauty.com
- The Pet Warehouse** 101 Church St., Burlington 854-7930, thepetwarehouse.com



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# SHOPPING

## BEST MUSICAL INSTRUMENT STORE

### Advance Music Center

This family-owned instrument shop sells quality guitars, amps, drums and keyboards, as well as sheet music and music books. It also offers lessons for all levels and rents instruments and sound equipment. (76 Maple St., Burlington; 855-8532; [advancemusiccenter.com](http://advancemusiccenter.com))

#### Other finalists:

- Guitar Center** 21 Westmore St., Williston; 875-3527; [guitarcenter.com](http://guitarcenter.com)
- Guitar World** 11 Maple St., Montpelier; 225-2283; [guitarworld.com](http://guitarworld.com)
- Mountain Music Store and Guitar Repair** 375 College St., Burlington; 857-0220; [mountainmusic.com](http://mountainmusic.com)
- Vermont Violins** 23 Church St., Burlington; 852-2389-24 Main St., Montpelier; 289-4303; [vermontviolins.com](http://vermontviolins.com)

## BEST BOOKSTORE

### Phoenix Books

With their shops in Essex and Burlington centers, both Phoenix and Green River defy the name. Staff bookshelves are packed 100 miles. Hardcover and paperback are just part of the list; they offer the latest releases for your e-reader too. (192 Main St., Burlington; 855-3951; 21 Essex Ave., Essex; 875-2773; [phoenixbooks.com](http://phoenixbooks.com))

#### Other finalists:

- Amazon & House** 402 Dorset St., South Burlington; 584-8061; [amazonandhouse.com](http://amazonandhouse.com)
- Essex Bookshop** 14 Church St., Burlington; 852-8555; [essexbooks.com](http://essexbooks.com)
- The Flying Pig** 2,740 Shelburne Rd., Shelburne; 985-3500; [theflyingpigvt.com](http://theflyingpigvt.com)

## BUTLER CHITTENDEN COUNTY

### Bear Pond Books

One of several independently owned bookstores in the Montpelier area, Bear Pond keeps an unusual mix of books, CDs, author events and local artist resources. One of the best local bookstores in the state with books since 1973. (31 Main St., Montpelier; 225-0794; [bearpondbooks.com](http://bearpondbooks.com))

#### Other finalists:

- Brigadeiro Books** 39 State St., Williston; 344-1444; [brigadeirobooks.com](http://brigadeirobooks.com)
- The Vermont Bookshop** 38 Main St., Montpelier; 857-2067; [vermontbookshop.com](http://vermontbookshop.com)

## BEST HOUSEWARE STORE

### Homeport

The four-level store has a wide range of household products, including kitchen and dining furniture. Author suggests decorative items and a variety of services. (270 Main St., Burlington; 853-4434; [homeportvt.com](http://homeportvt.com))

#### Other finalists:

- Antiques & Beyond** 178 Tucker St., Williston; 875-5893; [antiquesandbeyond.com](http://antiquesandbeyond.com)
- Capital City** 101 State St., Montpelier; 225-2255; [capitalcityvt.com](http://capitalcityvt.com)
- MountainGoods** 100 Shelburne St., Shelburne Road; 336-3336; [mountaingoods.com](http://mountaingoods.com)
- Now in the City** 101 Church St., Burlington; 857-4225; [nowinthecity.com](http://nowinthecity.com)
- Stowe Kitchen, Bath & Living** 1813 Mountain Rd., Stowe; 253-8050; [stowekitchen.com](http://stowekitchen.com)



## BEST SECONDHAND CLOTHING STORE

# SECOND TIME AROUND

The 39-year-old consignment company offers upscale clothing and accessories at more than 40 boutiques nationwide. One of them is on the Church Street Marketplace in Burlington. And for the first time, it's won a category award. Not a "Vintage" store, STC maintains an inventory of "new and mint, consistent, disassembled designer pieces. It's sort of like T.J. Maxx, but smaller, cooler and more inviting. Vermont voters have browsed this rack and said 'this, more please.'"

31 Church St., Burlington • 855-8780 • [secondtimearound.net](http://secondtimearound.net)

## BEST CHILDREN'S TOY STORE

### Buttered Noodles

Has the best good children's store. Has a great of Burlington's best clothing books, shoes and gifts. And everything you could possibly want. (410 Main St., Essex; 875-3951; [butterednoodles.com](http://butterednoodles.com))

#### Other finalists:

- Joanne Toy Carts** "Toy Shop," 54 Park St., Shelburne; 855-3327; [toyshop.com](http://toyshop.com)
- Kids City** 101 West St., South Burlington; 225-6100; [kidscity.com](http://kidscity.com)
- Toys "R" Us** 244 Mainway, Williston; 857-8787; [toysrus.com](http://toysrus.com)
- We Play House** 301 Toys, 40 State St., Montpelier; 225-4232; [weplayhouse.com](http://weplayhouse.com)

## BEST FURNITURE STORE

### Burlington Furniture Company

With custom, contemporary designs, the Burlington store has long been a destination for those who want to bring new life to their home. (101 Main St., Burlington; 857-2058; [burlingtonfurniturecompany.com](http://burlingtonfurniturecompany.com))

#### Other finalists:

- Homeport** 27 Church St., Burlington; 853-4434; [homeportvt.com](http://homeportvt.com)
- Modern Design Furniture** 2910 Shelburne Rd., Burlington; 857-3427; [moderndesignvt.com](http://moderndesignvt.com)
- The Super Store** 1413 Essex St., Williston; 857-4221; [superstore.com](http://superstore.com)
- Wendell's Furniture** 480 Routes 10, Colchester; 885-7720; 4232 St. John St., South Burlington; 852-7773; 60 Sen. Rd., South Burlington; 857-2070; 1430 Wendell's Furniture; 857-2070; 1430 Wendell's Furniture; 857-2070

## BEST LIGHTING STORE

### Conant Metal & Light

Conant Metal & Light has been in the lighting business since 1961. It's just what you need for lighting your home or business. (101 Main St., Burlington; 857-2058; [conantmetal.com](http://conantmetal.com))

#### Other finalists:

- Barre Electric & Light Inc.** 101 Main St., Barre; 857-2058; [barreelectric.com](http://barreelectric.com)
- City Lights** 101 Main St., Burlington; 857-2058; [citylights.com](http://citylights.com)
- The Lamp Shop** 101 Main St., Burlington; 857-2058; [thelampshop.com](http://thelampshop.com)
- The Lighting** 101 Main St., Burlington; 857-2058; [thelighting.com](http://thelighting.com)



## BEST DRESSED WOMAN

# KAT WRIGHT

Burlington

## BEST ANTIQUE / SECONDHAND STORE

### ReSource

ReSource is a Burlington-based antique and secondhand store. It's just what you need for your home or business. (101 Main St., Burlington; 857-2058; [resourcevt.com](http://resourcevt.com))

#### Other finalists:

- Antique & Beyond** 178 Tucker St., Williston; 875-5893; [antiquesandbeyond.com](http://antiquesandbeyond.com)
- Brigadeiro Books** 39 State St., Williston; 344-1444; [brigadeirobooks.com](http://brigadeirobooks.com)
- Capital City** 101 State St., Montpelier; 225-2255; [capitalcityvt.com](http://capitalcityvt.com)
- MountainGoods** 100 Shelburne St., Shelburne Road; 336-3336; [mountaingoods.com](http://mountaingoods.com)
- Now in the City** 101 Church St., Burlington; 857-4225; [nowinthecity.com](http://nowinthecity.com)
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founded more than a generation ago as Blue Moon shops, this independent, rider-owned and -operated shop has locations in three snowboarding hot spots: Killington, Stowe and Ludlow. Darkside carries dozens of brands of everything from boards to boots to ski-rigs and DVDs, and it rents, repairs and tunes up gear. When staffers aren't consulting important mountainside research, they're sharing their extensive knowledge with appreciative customers. The freestyle couches and free coffee are nice bonuses.

2565 Mount St. Rd., Stowe • 253-0326 • [darksidesnowboards.com](http://darksidesnowboards.com)

# SHOPPING

## BEST PLACE TO BUY A COMPUTER

### Small Dog Electronics

End everything Mac-related here. From the latest laptops to software, cables and more, there are also offers on our Mac service and repair. 1000 Denet St., South Burlington. 855-1215 • 333-5616 • [smalldog.com](http://smalldog.com)

#### Other finalists:

- Best Buy:** 28 Cypress St., Williston 332-0252
- Best Buy:** 6000
- Computers for Change:** 135 College St., Burlington 258-9881
- Computer:** 2000
- Computer:** 2000
- Computer:** 2000
- Computer:** 2000
- Computer:** 2000
- Computer:** 2000
- Computer:** 2000

## BEST CAMERA SHOP

### LeZot Camera Shop

Burlington's oldest camera shop continues its 30-plus-year tradition of repairing and selling photography equipment. 234 Church St., Burlington 332-3402 • 877-834-5616 • [lezot.com](http://lezot.com)

#### Other finalists:

- Best Buy:** 28 Cypress St., Williston 332-0252
- Best Buy:** 6000
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## BEST BRIDAL SHOP

### Flori Bridal Boutique

Ready to say "I do"? This bridal shop has everything and a collection of designer gowns and accessories. 1000 Denet St., South Burlington. 855-1215 • 333-5616 • [floriboutique.com](http://floriboutique.com)

#### Other finalists:

- Best Buy:** 28 Cypress St., Williston 332-0252
- Best Buy:** 6000
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## BEST AUTO DEALER

### The AutoMaster

It started in 1980. Today the AutoMaster is Burlington's largest car dealership. 1000 Denet St., South Burlington. 855-1215 • 333-5616 • [automaster.com](http://automaster.com)

#### Other finalists:

- Best Buy:** 28 Cypress St., Williston 332-0252
- Best Buy:** 6000
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## BEST GARDEN CENTER

### Gardener's Supply Company

Founded in 1983 by former gardeners, this employee-owned business provides everything from fertilizer to mulch to landscape plants to greenhouse. 1000 Denet St., South Burlington. 855-1215 • 333-5616 • [gardenersupply.com](http://gardenersupply.com)

#### Other finalists:

- Best Buy:** 28 Cypress St., Williston 332-0252
- Best Buy:** 6000
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## BEST PLACE TO BUY A PIPE

### Full Tank

Looking for a new pipe? Full Tank has everything. 1000 Denet St., South Burlington. 855-1215 • 333-5616 • [fulltank.com](http://fulltank.com)

#### Other finalists:

- Best Buy:** 28 Cypress St., Williston 332-0252
- Best Buy:** 6000
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- Best Buy:** 6000
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## BEST ADULT TOY STORE

### Good Stuff

With stores in St. Albans, Burlington, Rutland and White River, Good Stuff is a one-stop shop for all your adult toy needs. 1000 Denet St., South Burlington. 855-1215 • 333-5616 • [goodstuff.com](http://goodstuff.com)

#### Other finalists:

- Best Buy:** 28 Cypress St., Williston 332-0252
- Best Buy:** 6000
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## BEST PLACE TO BUY LINGERIE

### Aristelle

The best place to buy lingerie is at Aristelle. 1000 Denet St., South Burlington. 855-1215 • 333-5616 • [aristelle.com](http://aristelle.com)

#### Other finalists:

- Best Buy:** 28 Cypress St., Williston 332-0252
- Best Buy:** 6000
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## BEST SKI / SNOWBOARD SHOP

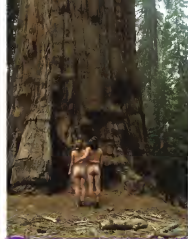
### Burton Snowboards Flagship Store

As the snowboarding pioneer, this shop is a one-stop shop for everything you need to get out there. 1000 Denet St., South Burlington. 855-1215 • 333-5616 • [burton.com](http://burton.com)

#### Other finalists:

- Best Buy:** 28 Cypress St., Williston 332-0252
- Best Buy:** 6000
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## BONUS

### CUTEST COUPLE

#### JESSA MORRISH & WALLACE KENYON

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#### OUTSIDE CHITTENDEN COUNTY

##### Darkside Snowboards

This independent store owned and operated shop has branches in Dover, Ludlow and Killington. Outside carries everything you need for everything from novices to pros. Call Day 525.2 or jessamorrish@darkside.com for more info. 17100 Mountain Rd., Dover 553.0333, darksideboards.com

##### Other finds:

- **Ali's Ski and Sports** 338 Mountain Rd., Dover 553.4555 aliassports.com
- **Topstyle Ski & Ride** 101 Royal St., Montpelier 553.5370 topstylevt.com

#### BEST BIKE SHOP

##### Earth's Cyclery & Fitness

Earth's Cyclery & Fitness has been helping locals in shape for more than 40 years. Its longevity is testament to the things and quality of service and the people it offers in its "happy place" like Somers, 2500 Wilshire Rd., South Burlington 864.6767 earths.com

##### Other finds:

- **North Star Sports** 108 Main St., Burlington 863.3432 northstarsports.com
- **Old Spokes Home** 323 North Wardsboro Ave., Burlington 863.4438 oldspokeshome.com
- **Tahawk** 33 Main St., Burlington 862.4323 tahawk.com

#### OUTSIDE CHITTENDEN COUNTY

##### Onion River Sports

Onion River Sports has been excited to welcome you to their shop for 46 years. Offering a vast selection of mountain gear and accessories as well as fishing. Call also books great stuff through its annual book club in South Wardsboro. 323 Langdon St., Montpelier 553.9805 onionriver.com

##### Other finds:

- **Ali's Ski and Sports** 338 Mountain Rd., Dover 553.4555 aliassports.com
- **Ride** 390 Mount Airy Rd., Dover 553.7547 ridevt.com

#### BEST OUTDOOR OUTFITTER

##### Outdoor Gear Exchange

Locally owned Outdoor Gear Exchange has been selling outdoor apparel and equipment, and promoting environmental awareness since 1985. 31 Church St., Burlington 862.0100 gear.com

##### Other finds:

- **Ali's Ski and Sports** 338 Mountain Rd., Dover 553.4555 aliassports.com
- **Eastern Mountain Sports** 108 Central St., South Burlington 864.3433 ems.com
- **Onion River Sports** 323 Langdon St., Montpelier 553.9805 onionriver.com
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# SERVICES

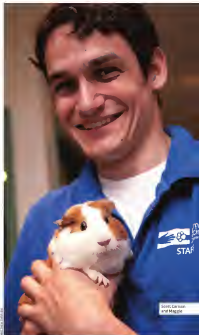


**If shoppers tend to stick with their favorite stores, that goes double for most services.**

Once we choose a bank, say, or a hair salon, most of us don't even want to try another one. Apparently that is also true of "places to get body art." If you're looking for a tattoo, there is any indication. And by the way, that is why the tattooers' ballot doesn't exclude highly stereotypical categories such as dental or mechanic. Do you know the names of any tattooists in your area?

To keep things interesting — and to build up our tattoo's "directory" — we added a bunch of new categories this year, including veterinarians, animal hospital, pet groomer, career real estate agent and barbershops. These winners were, respectively: Green Mountain Animal Hospital, Doggie Stylist, Supersnap, Jessica Neugebauer and the Moonbeam. Welcome, people!

We didn't expect that another new entry — best nonprofit — would get anyone knocking in a beat. But one voter disapproved, saying all of them do good work. True that. But animal lovers unleashed their passion on this one, giving the Humane Society of Chittenden County its very first Daycare award. **Good**



Scott, Cassie and Maggie

PHOTO: GUY LAWRENCE

## BEST NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

### Humane Society of Chittenden County

The HSOC serves Chittenden and Grand Isle counties, taking in upward of 1,000 animals a year. Any day, 100 abandoned pets are being cared for — not preapproved adoption. (742 Kindness Ct., South Burlington, 802-655-4100; [chittendenhumane.org](http://chittendenhumane.org))

#### Other finalists:

- Compassion on Temporary Shelter (COTTS)** 66 North Ave., Burlington, 802-436-3632; [cottonet.org](http://cottonet.org)
- Local Family Center** 30 Glen Rd., Burlington, 802-671-1911; [lfcvt.org](http://lfcvt.org)
- Planned Parenthood of Northern New England** 90 St. Paul St., Burlington, 802-655-1600; [plannedparenthood.org](http://plannedparenthood.org)
- Varsity Foodbank** 133 Parker St., Burlington, 802-255-4700; [varsityfoodbank.org](http://varsityfoodbank.org)

## BEST PET DAYCARE

### Gulliver's Doggie Daycare

Admiring people has caught up your pooch and brought it to a pet-friendly place and more than a pet-friendly place in Williston, (58 Industrial Ave., Williston, 802-944-4600; [gulliversdoggie.com](http://gulliversdoggie.com))

#### Other finalists:

- Oh My Dog** 18 Lane Road, South Burlington, 802-521-3213; [ohmydogvt.com](http://ohmydogvt.com)
- Play Dog Play** 101 First St., Burlington, 802-681-5155; [playdogvt.com](http://playdogvt.com)
- Staten Kennel Club** 100 Essex Hill Rd., Essex, 802-257-0107; [statenkennelclub.com](http://statenkennelclub.com)
- The City Doggie** 5 Gerry's Mountain Dr., South Burlington, 802-364-1104; [thecitydoggie.com](http://thecitydoggie.com)
- West Hill** 434-640; [westhillvt.com](http://westhillvt.com)

## BEST NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

### HUMANE SOCIETY OF CHITTENDEN COUNTY

Here, kitty, kitty. Doggies and bunnies, too. Located at the aptly named Kindness Court in Burlington, the HSOC serves Chittenden and Grand Isle counties and takes in upward of 1,000 animals a year. On any given day, the organization is caring for 100 abandoned pets — and preparing them for new best friends. HSOC: mix and match on donations and does not receive state or federal funding. Adopt a buddy!

142 Kindness Court, Burlington • 802-655-4100 • [chittendenhumane.org](http://chittendenhumane.org)





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LOCALS PICK THE BEST OF VERMONT® 2014 Categories: P & B, 10/11/14 45

# OUTDOOR+ RECREATION



**Hiking and biking and running, oh my**  
Those are just three of the new categories we introduced this year. That is, back day hikes, best place to bike and best foot race. And the winners are: Camel's Hump State Park, Burlington Lake Path and KeyBank Vermont City Marathon & Relay. Is a state filled with outdoorsy types. You'd think we might have come up with these before the boys' 10th year. Guess we were focused on going downhill first, aka best ski/railro slope. And to that point, Stowe Mountain Resort returns to the top.

However, the entire town of Stowe, long our readers' pick for weekend getaway, coded the day to Jay Peak Resort, this year. Places that indoor waterpark is making a big splash.

What else is new? Best state park. Wonder where Mt. Philo is going to hang its day. We also thought to ask you: the best place to people watch and the best place to take your picnics. Perhaps it's no coincidence that

Burlington's Church Street Market takes sweep both categories. If you've got kids, though, the Subaru Kamis is still the way to go. Who can compete with cute baby animals?

## BEST PUBLIC GOLF COURSE

### Kwiniska Golf Club

Kwiniska is a 9-hole private championship-length golf course in Shelburne. It offers a clubhouse, pro shop and snack bar, as well as an on-site practice facility. 3030 Grand St., Shelburne. 888-3872 kwiniska.com

#### Other finalists

- Arrowhead Golf Course** (300 Marky Ave., Milton. 888-6234 arrowheadvt.com)
- Rocky Ridge Golf Club** (3400 Mt. Road N., Dorset. 483-1252 rockyridge.com)
- The Links at Long Farm** (36 Evans Hill Drive, Jamaica. 774-6289 thelinksatlongfarm.com)
- Watkins Golf Club** (474 East Course Rd., Watkins. 878-1341 watkinsgolfclub.com)

## BEST SKI / RIDE SLOPE

### Stowe Mountain Resort

Like kids, teens, adults and old, just 118 ft up Stowe's main peak, otherwise, gift to wintering visitors, a pit better kicking back in the sunny lodge. 1240 Mountain Rd., Stowe. 253-9000 stowe.com

#### Other finalists

- Belton Valley Resort** (4350 Union Valley Road, Belton. 508-444-3444 beltonvalley.com)
- Jay Peak Resort** (830 Jay Peak Rd., Jay. 888-267-7666 jaypeakresort.com)
- Sunlight in North Royalton** (1323 VT Route 101 South, Jeffersonville. 644-8932 sunlight.com)
- Sugarbush Resort** (1001 Cell Center Rd., Torrington. 253-8270 sugarbush.com)

## BEST CROSS-COUNTRY SKI AREA

### Trapp Family Lodge

In winter 1967, 2,000-acre Austrian-style resort is a cross-country ski center. In summer, it offers hiking, tennis, swim, wagon rides, bird-watching tours and Sunday concerts in the meadow. 750 Trapp Hill Rd., Stowe. 253-8441 trappfamily.com

#### Other finalists

- Belton Valley Resort** (4350 Union Valley Road, Belton. 508-444-3444 beltonvalley.com)
- Cummauch's Golden Family Center** (527 Cummauch's Drive, N. Woodbury. 878-6021 cummauchsgoldenfamilycenter.com)
- Craftsbury Skislope Center** (155 East Main St., Craftsbury Center. 588-1362 craftsbury.com)
- Stoney Mountain Inn** (80 and 81a Canal. 477-14-1000 stoney.com. 434-4399 480stoney.com)

## BEST IN-STATE WEEKEND GETAWAY

### Jay Peak Resort

Vermont's northernmost resort offers first-powder, great patios, snowmobiling and ice skating in winter. In the golf course in summer. 830 Jay Peak Rd., Jay. 888-267-7666 jaypeakresort.com

#### Other finalists

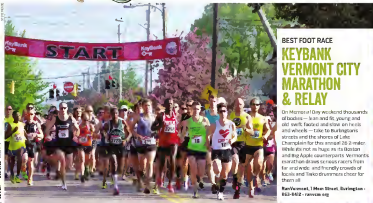
- Golden Kingdom** (Westmore)
- Green** (Stowe. 508-550-1748 green.com)
- Stowe Peak Mountain Resort** (594/1541 Mountain Rd., Stowe. 253-8552 stoweflow.com)
- Trapp Family Lodge** (750 Trapp Hill Rd., Stowe. 253-8441 trappfamily.com)

## BEST FOOT RACE

# KEYBANK VERMONT CITY MARATHON & RELAY

On Memorial Day weekend thousands of backpackers — lean and fit, young and old, well-fueled and on-line on their feet and wheels — take to Burlington's streets and the shores of Lake Champlain for this annual 26.2-mile. While it's not as huge as its Boston and Big Apple counterparts, Vermont's marathon draws serious runners from far and wide, and friendly crowds of locals and Triko drivers cheer for them all.

Run-Vermont, 1 Main Street, Burlington • 888-8412 • runvt.com





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## OUTDOOR+ RECREATION



### BEST VERMONT DAY TRIP WITH THE KIDS

#### Shelburne Farms

Walk the paths, take in the views, visit the cheesemakers or pet baby animals at this 1,400-acre property. Farm and school are center. Don't miss dining in house, at the greenhouse or on the deck. 1000 Shelburne Rd., Shelburne, VT 05486. [shelburnefarms.org](http://shelburnefarms.org)

#### Other favorites:

- **ACT Lake Aquatic and Science Center** | Cottage St., Burlington 05401-1001. [actvt.org](http://actvt.org)
- **Jay Peak Pump House** | 330 Jay Peak Rd., Jay 05451. [jaypeak.org](http://jaypeak.org)
- **Parishouse Waterpark** | [parishousewaterpark.com](http://parishousewaterpark.com)
- **Shelburne Museum of Science** | Main St., Shelburne 05486. [shelburnemuseum.org](http://shelburnemuseum.org)
- **Shelburne Museum** | 1000 Shelburne Rd., Shelburne 05486. [shelburnemuseum.org](http://shelburnemuseum.org)
- **Swan** | Swan 05640. [swanresort.com](http://swanresort.com)

### BEST FOOT RACE

#### KeyBank Vermont City Marathon & Relay

Long-distance runners found the pavement for this annual 26.2-mile race through the Green City. Cheering crowds and faster runners make every mile special. 7 Park St., #304, Burlington 05401. [vtrun.org](http://vtrun.org)

#### Other favorites:

- **Green Lake Race** | State, [vtrun.org](http://vtrun.org)
- **Leaf Poppers Half Marathon & 5K** | Visit [leafpoppers.com](http://leafpoppers.com)
- **Mad River Race** | Mad River Valley Ski Field, [madriver.com](http://madriver.com)
- **Mill River Race** | Mill River, Burlington, [millriver.com](http://millriver.com)
- **Vermont Corporate and State Agency Race** | [vtrun.org](http://vtrun.org)

### BEST PEOPLE-WATCHING PLACE

#### Church Street Marketplace

Don't miss Burlington's pedestrian-only promenade lined by shops, restaurants, food vendors and street performers. When the weather's nice, you can pet dogs, lunch or dinner outside and watch the world go by. Church St., Burlington 05401. [churchstreetmarketplace.com](http://churchstreetmarketplace.com)

#### Other favorites:

- **Burlington Farmers' Market** | City Hall Park, Burlington 05401. [burlingtonfarmersmarket.org](http://burlingtonfarmersmarket.org)
- **Burlington waterfront** | Burlington, [burlingtonwaterfront.com](http://burlingtonwaterfront.com)
- **Leavitt's Blue & Cafe** | 73 Church St., Burlington 05401. [leavittsblue.com](http://leavittsblue.com)
- **The Champlain Valley Fair** | 100 Park St., Essex Junction 05451. [champlainvalleyfair.org](http://champlainvalleyfair.org)

### BEST PLACE TO TAKE YOUR PARENTS

#### Church Street Marketplace

More and more parents find their way to Burlington's version of a commons—a pedestrian mall with shops, restaurants, street vendors and performers suitable for all ages. When the weather's nice, stroll along for the people-watching. Church St., Burlington 05401. [churchstreetmarketplace.com](http://churchstreetmarketplace.com)

#### Other favorites:

- **Burlington waterfront** | Burlington, [burlingtonwaterfront.com](http://burlingtonwaterfront.com)
- **Shelburne Farms** | 1000 Shelburne Rd., Shelburne 05486. [shelburnefarms.org](http://shelburnefarms.org)
- **Shelburne Museum** | 1000 Shelburne Rd., Shelburne 05486. [shelburnemuseum.org](http://shelburnemuseum.org)
- **Swan** | Swan 05640. [swanresort.com](http://swanresort.com)

### BEST STATE PARK

#### Mt. Philo State Park

Mt. Philo is the perfect high-altitude locale for picnics with friends—your first-of-its-kind picnic begins after 4:30 p.m. Open from Memorial Day through Columbus Day weekend. Pay to picnic fee at the top. 2400 Mt. Philo Rd., Cheshire 05238. [vtparks.com/mountphilo.html](http://vtparks.com/mountphilo.html)

#### Other favorites:

- **Acadia State Park** | 64 Schneider Rd., Oriskany 05854. [vtparks.com/mtphilo/mtphilo.htm](http://vtparks.com/mtphilo/mtphilo.htm)
- **Greenfield State Park** | 38 East Shore Road, Greenfield 05340. [vtparks.com/greenfield/greenfield.htm](http://vtparks.com/greenfield/greenfield.htm)
- **Little River State Park** | 3044 Little River Rd., Waterbury 05671. [vtparks.com/littleriver/littleriver.htm](http://vtparks.com/littleriver/littleriver.htm)
- **Sand Bar State Park** | 255 U.S. Route 1, Winton 05373. [vtparks.com/sandbar/sandbar.htm](http://vtparks.com/sandbar/sandbar.htm)

### BEST DAY HIKE

#### Camel's Hump State Park

Legend founder the Allen family named this 2,600-acre 1930s trail network "Camel's Hump" in the late 1920s. From the Huntington Rd. junction to the top, it's a steep climb to the town in time for dinner. 1000 Huntington Rd. 05401. [vtparks.com/camelhump/camelhump.htm](http://vtparks.com/camelhump/camelhump.htm)

#### Other favorites:

- **Mt. Mansfield** | Underhill State Park, 330 Mountain Road, Underhill 05459. [vtparks.com/mansfield/mansfield.htm](http://vtparks.com/mansfield/mansfield.htm)
- **Old State Park** | 5400 Mt. Erie Rd., Cheshire 05238. [vtparks.com/oldstate/oldstate.htm](http://vtparks.com/oldstate/oldstate.htm)
- **Sugar Mountain** | Mountain Rd., Addison 05401. [vtparks.com/sugar/sugar.htm](http://vtparks.com/sugar/sugar.htm)
- **Swanton State Park** | 1000 Swanton Rd., Jeffersonville 05488. [vtparks.com/swanton/swanton.htm](http://vtparks.com/swanton/swanton.htm)



### BEST IN-STATE WEEKEND GETAWAY

#### JAY PEAK RESORT

Whether you're into skiing, riding, golfing or just falling through a keeping pitch black chute that gets you up your bathing suit, Jay Peak Resort is Vermont's hands-down pick for a quick and easy weekend of fun. In recent years, the Northeast Kingdom's anchor industry has steadily expanded its year-round offerings, providing high-end accommodations, top-notch food and hospitality without leaving the bank. Last anyone doubt via Vermont's best annual live music event is called the Joe Raposo Festival. Pump House 1001.

830 Jay Peak Road, Jay 05451. [jaypeakresort.com](http://jaypeakresort.com)

### BEST PLACE TO BIKE

#### Burlington Bike Path

Five connected bikeways, paths and walkways stretch 11.5 miles along the city shoreline, from the southern end of Cottage Park north to the Newbury River where the path connects to Long's Reach. [burlingtonbikepath.org](http://burlingtonbikepath.org)

#### Other favorites:

- **Champlain Valley Family Center** | 1001 Gay, Chittenden 05401. [champlainvalleyfamilycenter.com](http://vtparks.com/champlainvalleyfamilycenter.com)
- **Kingsley Trails** | 1001 Gay, Chittenden 05401. [kingsleytrails.com](http://vtparks.com/kingsleytrails.com)
- **Swan Recreation Path** | Swan, Chittenden 05401. [swanpath.com](http://vtparks.com/swanpath.com)



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# MEDIA



**We all like to eat — see the Food and Drink sections.** And apparently we also like to read about eating. Seven Days senior food writer Alice Levitt edged out stiff competition to win best print/online journalist this year.

In addition to her reporting for the paper, Levitt writes the weekly blog feature *Alice Eats*, compiles the state club e-newsletter frequently appears as a guest on WCAX's "The 30" and is active in the Twitterverse. But neither she nor anyone else could beat Seven Days' impeccable multimedia producer five baller for social media personality.

Seven Days readers are also partial to longtime contributing photographer Matthew Thorsen, whose distinctively arty images have helped define the paper's look since its early days.

In TV land, WCAX anchor Darren Perron is the man to beat — but no one does. The same can be said for WPIC's Tam Messner who has won best meteorologist every year since 2009. Has his sunny personality ever seen a cloudy day?

Vermont Public Radio dished the competition in the Daydays this year: it won for best radio station and best radio morning show ("Morning Edition") while WPTV's Jane Lindholm won best local radio host ("Vermont Edition"). But the personality popular club DJ DJing Mitchell won best local radio DJ this year for bringing the party to Planet 96.7.

New to the Daydays is best college radio station, and the hands down winner is WRUN 90.1 at the University of Vermont. With both student and community DJs and extremely eclectic programming, the station has been the "better alternative" since 2005. Now this is what we call long playing.



Levitt/Levitt

## BEST PRINT / ONLINE JOURNALIST

### Alice Levitt, Seven Days

Seven Days' senior food writer and media personality Alice Levitt has also won a nodding with her lively, snappy features, features and reviews, as well as her weekly e-newsletter *Alice Eats*. @AliceLevitt

#### Other finalists:

- Jeff Baker, Burlington Free Press, @jeffbakermag
- Chris Burlington, Burlington Free Press, @CBurlington
- Ben White, Seven Days, @benwhite73
- Anna Galloway, stringer-at-large, @agalloway73
- Paul Hargis, Seven Days, @paulhargis
- Ken Pickett, Seven Days, Facebook

## BEST PHOTOJOURNALIST

### Matthew Thorsen, Seven Days

Since 1999, Matthew Thorsen has made the pages of Seven Days with his slow-burn, evocative images. One could do the color-cast of his black and white result photos from the 1980s at [bigcity.nyworld.com/mundprof](http://bigcity.nyworld.com/mundprof) ([matthorson.com](http://matthorson.com)).

#### Other finalists:

- Emily Morken, Burlington Free Press, @emilymorken
- Stephen Huxton, Greenplains College, @stephenhuxton
- Glenn Russell, Burlington Free Press, Facebook
- Jeff Mitchell, Windsor, Seven Days, News Agency, Facebook



## MOST INTERESTING MAN IN VERMONT

### SEN. BERNIE SANDERS Burlington

## BEST LOCAL TV JOURNALIST

### Darren Perron, WCAX

Not only is he a 20-time Emmy Award winner, but he's also the best local TV journalist in the West, the *Northeast Kingdom* native told among the steepest journalism prizes (WCAX, Darrell).

#### Other finalists:

- Gina Burke, WCAX, @GinaBurke
- Erinny White, ABC 25/56 44, @erinnywhite
- Kristin Kelly, WCAX, @KristinKelly
- Jack Thorne, NBC/WT2, @JackThorne

## BEST LOCAL RADIO HOST

### Jane Lindholm, VPR

On NPR's "Vermont Edition" listeners can count on host Jane Lindholm to make comparisons of her guests and culture, whether about local NPR, politics or growing issues in the day. @janevpr on Vermont's Terry Road (@janevprradio).

#### Other finalists:

- Mark Johnson, WDEV, @MarkJohnsonVerm
- Mike Lyons, The Point, @MikeLyons
- Dan Lewis, The Point, @DanLewis
- Mick Tardiff, WPR, @mickward

## BEST SOCIAL-MEDIA PERSONALITY

### EVA SOLLBERGER

seven days multimedia producer doesn't need Facebook or Twitter to be a major personality in her own right — though they sure help her gather work out there. Like her wife and Midwestern, Eva enjoys a maine name brand recognition that comes with being a one-of-a-kind Vermont commodity. She's the brains and brawn behind seven days. Slack in Vermont video series, as well as a regular guest on WCAX's "The 30." Perhaps one day amid her tweets about rats, space aliens and snowplow drivers, Eva will share her secret to maintaining a joyful childlike happiness. Little wonder she has so many followers.

**Burlington** • @EvaSollberger

## BEST LOCAL RADIO DJ

### Craig Mitchell, Planet 96.7

Craig Mitchell is a Burlington radio throwback in all of the DJ booth, mixing hidden music or giving a wild mix of others. Now his DJing as Planet 96.7, Mitchell brings the party to the postcard, down here and into his (Play)agination.

#### Other finalists:

- **Big Ben**, WUUV Facebook
- **BURB**, WUUV-FM
- **Hill's**, WUUV-FM
- **John Davis**, The Point, 96.7 FM
- **Paul Powers**, 96.7 The Wolf, 96.7 FM

## BEST RADIO STATION

### Vermont Public Radio

Nearly 13 full-power stations around the state, VPR brings and streams music, talk and locally produced content. It's evidence of one of the largest among public radio stations in the U.S. (vpr.net)

#### Other finalists:

- **96.7 FM**, WUUV-FM
- **96.7 FM**, WUUV-FM
- **96.7 FM**, WUUV-FM
- **96.7 FM**, WUUV-FM
- **96.7 FM**, WUUV-FM

## BEST RADIO MORNING SHOW

### "Morning Edition," VPR

Meaningful, popular, and not based in Vermont, Heidi Stone's "Morning Edition" is the only one of its kind in the state. It's the only one of its kind in the state. It's the only one of its kind in the state.

#### Other finalists:

- **"Chris & Mike's Morning Show,"** WUUV-FM
- **"Chris & Mike's Morning Show,"** WUUV-FM
- **"Chris & Mike's Morning Show,"** WUUV-FM
- **"Chris & Mike's Morning Show,"** WUUV-FM
- **"Chris & Mike's Morning Show,"** WUUV-FM

## BEST COLLEGE RADIO STATION

### WUUV 90.1 FM Burlington (UVM)

For commercial stations, the only one of its kind in the state. It's the only one of its kind in the state. It's the only one of its kind in the state.

#### Other finalists:

- **WUUV 90.1 FM**, Burlington
- **WUUV 90.1 FM**, Burlington
- **WUUV 90.1 FM**, Burlington
- **WUUV 90.1 FM**, Burlington
- **WUUV 90.1 FM**, Burlington

## BEST METEOROLOGIST

### Tom Messner, WPTZ

Tom Messner is the only one of his kind in the state. It's the only one of his kind in the state. It's the only one of his kind in the state.

#### Other finalists:

- **Tom Messner**, WPTZ
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- **Paul Powers**, 96.7 The Wolf, 96.7 FM



Jane Lindholm

## BEST LOCAL RADIO HOST

### JANE LINDHOLM, VERMONT PUBLIC RADIO

As noon bells sound and VPR cranks up its "Morning Edition" theme music by Grace Potter & The Nocturnals, Vermonters count on Jane Lindholm for a deep dive into local politics, arts culture and pressing social issues of the day (or they're back to back). Lindholm's know-how and informed questions without getting too wonky or into the weeds and politics but firmly keep the conversation focused and civil. Clearly, her three-month tenure may leave a dent in Lindholm's popularity, one bit.

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